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Choose a side, Mr. Ignatieff—and stick to it



Even if Michael Ignatieff's run for the leadership of the federal party comes to naught, his entry into our politics will have served a valuable function. It will have put to bed the latest slur of anti-American nationalism: the myth of Canadian cosmopolitanism.

Thanks to Michael Ignatieff, we can see just how small-town cheap we really are. His excursion into our body politics set off alarm bells in the immense system of the Canadian establishment, which quickly identified him as a foreigner. Apparently, being a member of the closest thing that Canada has ever had to a landed aristocracy no longer means much in this country. Sure, he's one of those Ignatieffs, related to the Parfons and the Trinos, but so far as we're concerned, he's nothing more than an intruder from George W. Bush's empire come to piss us colonialists out.

These cosmopolitans who is really we're ravenous about Ignatieff's mission. The fact that he's spent more of the past 25 years outside the country does not bother me (in fact the Queen). Neither does his lack of experience in electoral politics (I realize he had little, *Maloney had none*). What does bother me is the lame defence he's given Canadians of his writings supporting the invasion of Iraq.

There were plenty of good arguments, both moral and under international law, for the invasion. There were good arguments against it as well. Reasonable people could and did disagree. The *Car Professor of Human Rights Practice* weighed the arguments and drew his conclusions. Now he claims that, had he been a politician at the time, his decision might have been different. Why? Because an intellectual is accountable only to himself, while a politician is accountable to citizens, allies, international institutions, and so on, with the power to commit soldiers and money. So his decision about whether or not

to support the war might have been different, he says, because his constituency would have been different.

There are many things wrong with this claim to know where to begin. As a first pass, it is worth pointing out that no academic is accountable only to himself. The entire rationale for professional self-regulation (and its academic equivalent, the peer-review process) is to ensure that common standards are maintained and the public good is served. And that argument is a real baring argu-

ment. This may appear to be an elegant way of accusing the men of intellectual commitments, if not dabbling. It is not. Rather, it is to point out that the reason Ignatieff finds himself in hot northern water isn't that he was writing too much as an academic, but that he wasn't being academic enough. In fact, long before he entered politics, he was already playing the politician. He just had a different constituency from the one he has now.

It may help to illustrate this with a story. A few years ago, I found myself teaching



What bothers me is his lame defence of his writings supporting the invasion of Iraq

way Ignatieff long ago bid farewell to the ivory tower. Since then, he's taken his arguments directly to the people, with the bulk of his work appearing in newspapers in the New York Times Magazine or newspaper-influenced newspapers such as the *Washington Post* and the *Guardian*. It's hard to imagine why an academic would publish so much in these places, unless he felt he had some hope of reducing public—and political—opinion.

This is still not a problem. The tricky part about being a public intellectual involves making healthy use of what is called the "ethos of attraction," which is just a fancy way of saying that you can't tell what they aren't saying. An argument is always political, whether it is aimed at specific readers. When you read all that Ignatieff has written since 9/11, it is clear he has been writing as a Canadian Canadian trying to find the path of American public discourse. His arguments need of the necessary compensation you need to make as a liberal in the U.S., thanks to essential post-Vietnam war-era loss of a position as a leftist, the need for Democrats to establish some credibility on security issues, and the imperative of coming to grips with the realities of America in the global op-

porting intellectual as a small liberal arts college in Ontario. At the same time, a friend of mine was teaching at a small liberal arts college in New York. We both used Ignatieff's book *Human Rights as Politics and History* as a text. My friend's students—standard issue New York City liberals—found the book horribly Canadian, slightly, well, kind of, and so on. In short, it was too left-wing. My students—standard issue Ontario undergrads—found the book for the opposite reasons. They read it as pro-American propaganda, as too imperialist, altogether too right-wing for their taste.

Being a public intellectual is more like being a politician than an academic. Politicians and public intellectuals are both engaged in the art of the possible. Michael Ignatieff has encouraged opposition back home because what is possible here is very different from what is possible in the United States. Canadian liberals are nothing like American liberals, and it is building a political constituency with the latter, he made enemies of the former. Given the rough ride he's getting, Ignatieff may be wondering if he should have followed his instincts and written for himself. ■

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STORY OF THE WEEK — DEATH OF A TROUBLED SOUL
Police don't know what drove Stephen Marshall to his final fate, and they won't say what he did. All they know is that the 30-year-old owner of North Shore, N.S., resorted to a name on Maine's online sex-offender registry before travelling to the state to visit his father. On the morning of Sunday, April 16, police say he went to the house of two men on the registry and killed them. That night, when police boarded the bus he was riding near Boston, Marshall finally took himself



A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF BARACK
For the first time in six years of enjoying power as George W. Bush's political architect, the White House deputy chief of staff suffered a violent rebellion. He was relieved of his job of developing domestic policy, but was allowed to keep a role in political affairs. It was an unprecedented setback for the power-hungry Bush. While he put on a brave face, one political insider noted, "Let's put it this way—he didn't go home and celebrate this with his family."

Good news

Brian's back in town

Last Thursday, former prime minister Brian Mulroney appeared to be in good health and in the best of form in an Earth Week gala dinner in Ottawa, where he was joined for his own emotional address by an audience of more than 100 Conservatives, including Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Mulroney stressed the importance of reinvigorating Canada's diplomatic relations with the Bush administration. In order to solve global warming, he said, the Canadian government must actively cooperate with U.S. leaders, and involve the private sector. Mulroney explicitly blamed the arrogance of former Liberal PM Paul Martin for compromising Canada's relationship with the U.S., and congratulated Harper for his attempt to mend fences.

Cardinal rules

In the face of rising HIV/AIDS infection rates, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, Carlo Maria Cardinal Martini of the Roman Catholic Church has taken the emergency step of publicly endorsing the use of condoms among married couples. In an interview with the Italian magazine *L'Espresso*, Cardinal Martini, who is the former archbishop of Milan, said that while he personally was uncomfortable with the virus, it is "less evil" for the couple to use a condom than to spread the disease. Although the Vatican has been slow to respond to the medical community, it is encouraging that some Church leaders are choosing to keep this issue at the forefront of debate.

Acid rain flashback
On Friday, a University of Alberta professor will be awarded the prestigious Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. David Schellner, a 69-year-old ecologist, will receive the US\$100,000 international prize for a series of groundbreaking experiments he conducted in the '70s and '80s that demonstrated the devastating effects of acid rain on freshwater lakes.

Was that so hard?
Andy Wells, the notoriously shy, tongue-tied mayor of St. John's, Nfld., has elected to take

the high road and apologize for calling a city council member "a stupid old woman." Well, said the council member after councilor Sherrill Duff said a motion to amend the city's banishment bylaws, which prohibit councilors from filing complaints against each other. According to Duff, the mayor has called members "stupid," "lame" and "snowbirds," and some sort of insurance is under way. Wells apologized on local radio, adding, "We all make statements in the

Hu's no help

China's leader, Hu Jintao, visited the United States last week. There was never much chance that Hu's visit was going to convince him to lighten up on dissidents, respect human rights, and broaden individual freedoms for his country. It was also unlikely that Washington and Beijing would make their trade issues less underdeveloped, as the U.S. has US\$160-billion trade imbalances, and restrictions on U.S. access to Chinese markets

Bad news

a dire straits. Canada. But there may be another dose to drop. Analysts at TD Securities warn that speculation over a conflict between the U.S. and Iran has driven the price beyond its fair value. Oil companies are struggling with rising costs, which could cut into profits. The bottom line, when the world's power, oil, could be in a dire straits, it could be in a dire straits to do so to protect and energy stocks to drop even faster. First you get hit by devaluing pump prices, next you get to watch your stock portfolio get hammered. That's what's called getting it wrong and going

Funny girl

It's Mireille McTee, author and actress, a notable arbiter of humor. Last week, as a panelist on CBC Radio's Canada Reads—on which prominent Canadians battle to determine the best Canadian literature—McTee was extremely at ease. Incredibly, as a Montrealer, she chose a satirical novel, *Goodbye, Calling It Not Funny*. Then again, she ought to know funny—she married Joe Clark.

Still no HBO

Last Saturday was Earth Day and HBO celebrated with *The Hot Net to Hottly*, a powerful documentary filled with alarming facts. For example, "I don't know if the U.S. has increased the world since 1970 and today kill more people than hurricanes, tornadoes, lightning and tsunamis combined." Now up was Elizabeth, an environmentalist. Helen Mirren as the 16th-century queen. The name came a world championship boxing match between Cloyd and Vladimir Klovach. Now that's creative programming. Too bad Canadians are missing out. ■

Double-barrelled

Too tight to hold when oil prices soared to a new record this week, a barrel last week, driving gas to new heights. It's

DISCOVERY

Words and music

Japan's NTT has developed a version of "orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing," an audio-coding system that can transmit embedded into mobile radio signals. It would enable mobile stations and even stores to send U.S. CDMA-coded signals that drive cellphones to a popular website. So, for example, you could hear only music, but not websites on Web-enabled phones.

Synthetic oil

A double whammy of two chemical catalysts can make synthetic hydrocarbons. Scientists have discovered how to use an aluminum-based molecule to synthesize

that can be used to make personal products such as diesel fuel.

Girl crazy

Women may have already realized this, but Belgian researchers have proved that men's decision-making skills can be added by the sight of a beautiful woman. When using business transaction simulations showed that men who saw pictures of beautiful women in lingerie were more likely to agree to deals than those who saw no pictures of women.

Beneath Antarctica

An ice-free land beneath Antarctica may be rich in oil and gas, but has been considered by an expedition, which is hoping the sample will hold secrets of the

the danger of contaminating an environment cut off from our world.

WILD KINGDOM

Hero cat

A baby boy, abandoned on a doorstep in Cologne, Germany, escaped possible death by hypothermia thanks to an untrained cat. A housewife, assisted by the animal's loud yowling, saved the cat with the baby on the doorstep. The child, whose mother or father has been found, suffered only mild exposure. "It cut a hero," said police spokesmen.

KIDS TODAY

GRPS and teens

New and improved global positioning systems will be used with more children and with their parents. In the 1990s series of Toronto studies, children and their parents, who were given a GPS device, were asked to track their children's whereabouts. The results showed that parents can become obsessed with knowing their kids, to the point of forming unhealthy fixations that threaten their relationship with their children, especially teenagers who are often in the middle of a rebellion.

Atomic animals

Chemistry is making progress in a huge area of research. Wildlife experts say that populations of animals are growing rapidly, and that by using atomic clocks, scientists can estimate on how many animals are in a given area.

The experts have tracked wild birds, whose populations grew eightfold in the years after the disaster. Their numbers are now held at check by wild birds. As well, songbirds and hawks are on the rise. Although first generations of many animals died or failed to reproduce consistently after the 1986 nuclear accident, subsequent generations are proving healthier.

Back from the brink

They look like pandas, dressed with sheep. And last week, the

Kerry Hill breed of sheep came off an annual "mooch" list maintained by Britain's Royal Society for the Protection of Animals. The Kerry Hill breed, known for its white face, except around its ears, eyes, nose and knees, was once black. The sheep were once numerous, but their numbers had declined until nearly when they became popular among small farmers and enthusiasts who fall for their plush, top-like look.

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KERRY HILL SHEEP Top: Mike

MONKIE STANDOFF: A Six Nations online problem 2000-01 posted at a website by the expanded links in Colorado, Oct.

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Double-barrelled

Too tight to hold when oil prices soared to a new record this week, a barrel last week, driving gas to new heights. It's



GREETING: The newly christened has welcomed his co-stars

hydrogen atoms of the short molecular chains that make up oil or natural gas. When that happens, the carbon atoms rearrange themselves into long chains. First, the scientists use a newly discovered "catalytic" catalyst to form the carbon atoms to distribute the molecules into even larger, more complex molecules. Finally, they use the nuclear catalyst to get the hydrogen back on the result: a processed hydrocarbon molecule.

disentangled through analysis of its air. The natural carbon and the one from 3.7 km below the Antarctic surface. Meanwhile, other researchers have found a whole network of rivers that connect hundreds of the frozen grand lakes beneath the ice continent. The rivers apparently cause water to flow beneath the lakes. For centuries, they may prove to be the site of a second covered ecosystem. But the most with replacing the deep roots



THE WEEK AHEAD...TORTURE AND MONOPOLY

Microsoft challenges the European Commission's 2004 antitrust ruling against it in the European Union's Court of First Instance, the EU's second-highest tribunal. The court will decide whether to overturn a ruling that Microsoft abused its near-monopoly status with Windows. Meanwhile, in a London court, British officials will argue that British account of torturing British Canadian William Sampson (left) should be immune from civil litigation filed in the United Kingdom.



TEEN SHOPPERS: Rage for rage

Teens and clothes

How much more can teenagers affordably spend on clothes? Apparently, a lot. A survey of North American girls found that spending rose 16 percent in the last year alone. Fashion purists, according to research from Piper Jaffray & Co., can expect 43 percent of the total this spending budget.

MORTALITY

Stem cells from fat

Clinical trials will begin in Japan shortly to determine whether stem cells can be cultured from fat tissue. The company under license, which has been approved by Japanese regulators, says a lot of 20 women who have undergone partial mastectomies agree to breast cancer could grow whether new breast tissue can be generated from the stem cells.

Counterproductive

They say there's more of an excuse than the average cough, sneeze, but people suffering from arthritis are even less likely to exercise, despite the fact that exercise

benefits those with the debilitating and painful joint disease. A U.S. health survey last week and 17 per cent of people with arthritis do no exercise, even though strength training and cardiovascular work can improve their conditions.

MONEY

Where's the cash?

The Spanish government is trying to figure out why a quarter of all 100-euro banknotes in circulation are ending up in Spain and then disappearing. More than 100 million 100-euro notes were issued to Spanish retail banks that were returned by them. With a booming construction industry in Spain, it's suspected that cash-strapped workers are using the notes—which are worth 1790 pesos—as well as the 10



500-EURO 'BULGARIAN'

that's long string of money lenders. The notes have been nicknamed "big Lenders" in Spain, because everyone knows they're around but no one sees them.

POLL WATCH

Sovereign Scots

Scots are divided on the prospects of sovereignty, with 46 per cent supporting independence from the United Kingdom vs. 39 per cent who are opposed. The last vote of Scotland's independence ended in 1707. Although Scots have had a limited legislative assembly with tax powers since 1998, 80 per cent would favour an immediate change to full independence.

Big decisions

Almost half of U.S. Internet users consult the Web for help in making major decisions in life. That can range from choosing schools for their children or helping someone close to them through a serious illness. A study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project found that 45 per cent of Internet users, about 60 million people, reported that the Net has helped them make such big decisions. About 16 million Americans use the Net for help on major investments.

IN OTHER NEWS

Money down drain

German police last week revealed that a major crime in Berlin, under the auspices of a criminal, that the nation's former currency, the Deutschmark, had become worthless in the dissolution of the euro. Banked DM60,000 down in value. Although obviously, the 14,500 won't be lost. Deutschmarks could be exchanged for euros at any bank. Since workers engaged to recover half the banknotes from

the street's plumbing, and most of the others dug up a local sewer line and were lashed out.

Slimpy anniversary

The two-piece bikini bathing suit has turned 60. Created by French automotive engineer Louis Réard,



REARD: Still a sensation at 60

the bikini caused a sensation in 1946 Paris. Réard named the bathing suit after Bikini Atoll, in the South Pacific's Marshall Islands, where the United States had just begun testing atomic bombs.

IN PASSING

Albert Scott Crossfield, 64, test pilot. The first person to break the speed of sound, Crossfield also flew the fastest X-15 rocket plane, reaching 4,800 mph. He died last week in a Cessna near a small airport he was piloting.

Kim Jong-il, 39, of North Korea. The pioneering movie director in power in North Korea in 1991, when Kim Jong-il ordered him to end propaganda films. Kim refused and was sent to prison, where for a time he had to eat grass and tree bark to survive. He was released in 1986 and eventually moved to Hollywood, where he made a Nijima M



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INTERVIEW



'Smaller families can make fathers more disconnected, because demands are not as great. Mom can handle one child.'

STEPHAN POULTER, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, AUTHOR OF *THE FATHER FACTOR* AND DAD TO A 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL, TALKS TO KENNETH WHYTE

Q The word "family" seems to mean a lot of different things today. Some kids have fathers, stepfathers, absent fathers, no fathers. Some experts say a boy or girl needs an emotional connection with a father. Some say a father is necessary. You posit that fathers are naturally, psychologically and socially connected to a well-behaved child.

A: Absolutely. Regardless of marital status, fathers play a huge role in their children's development. We need to think more about fathers' lives. It's these life challenges that are dispiriting. I'm not an and-for-one when I say this, but fathers have an enormous impact on their children, particularly in the work arena. I talk in the book about the emotional bond we all have with our children. It's the first man that ever loved you. He's the first man you ever loved. It is because of that relationship that it's so important for how you relate to men later in life. If a father is not present, an employee is more at risk of rejection in the workplace.

Q: You talk about emotionally connected, responsive fathers. What does that mean in practice? Once a week you talk them to the park? Don't make you can never say, where they're apart, "Wait 'til after the game?"

A: All that, plus you're involved in their lives. Start with changing diapers, helping them get out clothes, going to preschool, watching their kindergarten in studies. We're constant presence in their life.

Q: What's consistent? Like, how often? Twice

a day? Once a week? Public holidays?

A: Well, it's more the emotional quality, not quantity. You're able to read your child, you're focused on your child. You're not always on your cellphone or reading your email or preoccupied with something else. You see your role, your first job, as being with your children; your second job is bringing money home, not the other way around.

Q: It's not enough to be a breadwinner, a provider, establish a stable household, and so on? **A:** I think the larger part—not that that isn't an important part—but the bigger part is the emotional connection.

Q: We're sure as a lot of fathers about women and work-life balance that, well, frankly, everybody's having problems getting it right. I'm not every father out there who wants to be a presence in his child's life. They want to be the teacher, go to the game, the soccer, be a gladiator to cry on a moment, when have you. They have a lot of other things to do. Work takes time, life takes time. So how do you know when you're doing enough?

A: Well, I think you know when you're not doing enough.

Q: How? **A:** By whether or not your child is functioning at school, at home. Or, if you spend time together, apart from the child's mother. Pragmatically, is that one hour a day, or five hours a week? Spending an hour a day may mean like a lot Monday through Friday, but there's time on the weekends, or maybe you're doing in the car or doing homework with them.

at night. If you're focusing on your children when you're with them they will sense your presence, and that is enough. Sometimes fathers are gone for a week on business, but they talk to their children on the phone every night, and they have a great discussion. I try not to take off these calls when I'm with my kids. I'm not with them that much but when I'm with them I really want to be with them.

Q: What's the biggest problem with your message? North American fathers' apathy?

A: Too passive. It's not a whole lot different than 1950s Cleve and Hester, the Robert Young father figure. But style. Today's father may be a little more aggressively mobile, or more financially solvent, but in terms of really getting in their kids' lives, connecting with them, and understanding their emotions, I think a lot of dads stay in the periphery.

Q: It is an argument for father-as-head-of-the-household.

A: Kids don't need you as a head there. They've got friends at school. They need a parent. In good parenting, I think the watermark is the ability to say no. The passive father doesn't say no. He'll avoid it, acquiesce, or move the boundaries, or say no but then say yes later. And that's why a lot of kids are out of control—emotionally, morally. We see it in this industry at Duke University right now, the behavior of the freshmen men. No one's ever said no to them guys. The kids grow up with a sense of entitlement, "If I want it, I'll get it."

Q: Let's talk about daughters a bit. I think



KANDAHAR will probably remain the Harper government's main international focus

IT'S A GREAT BIG WORLD

...and the Tories are taking advantage of it. Foreign policy didn't figure much in their platform, but they're somehow racking up early successes. Is it luck or design?

BY JONATHAN GATHEZEE • Stephen Harper has the test in stone priorities as Canada's new prime minister—foreign policy, accountability, cutting the GST, cracking down on crime, setting new parameters for health care, and a new family assistance program. None of them took beyond our own borders, but three months on, it's evident the early reviews are in, and his biggest success has been playing the away game. Harper's foreign policy photo-ops—meeting with the pope in Afghanistan, straddling shoulder-to-shoulder with George W. Bush and Vicente Fox at the Cancun summit—have helped him claim prime ministerial, if a little fashion-challenged, Canada's rapid decision to cut its \$750 million annual aid to the Palestinian Authority after Hamas took power sent international leaders, and was mandated by the United States and the European Union. Adding

the Tamil Tigers, who have waged a bloody 13-year campaign for an independent homeland in Sri Lanka, so Canada's list of interest groups grows, has been hailed as a principled and long-overdue decision. As George W. Bush, who came to power vowing to be a "domestic" president, knows all too well, the money world of world affairs has a way of overriding even the most carefully constructed agendas. That has yet to become a problem for Harper. Some comparisons to the opposing camp of the Liberal years, especially on issues like the evasion of Iraq and missile defence, the Conservatives' foreign policy has so far looked sensible and robust. The question is, are all these plaudits the fruit of some fundamental shift in Canada's philosophy abroad, or simply a lesson in how to succeed without really trying? Rending the tea leaves is difficult in this

early stage. That's mostly because this minority government has proven little to say about what it hopes to achieve on the international stage. The Conservative party election platform had four main themes devoted to the subject, vaguely vowing to protect Canadian sovereignty, promote Canadian values abroad, and better recognize aid, defence and trade into the foreign policy mix. The Speech from the Throne contained no further specifics, although the Department of International Trade, housed off to a separate ministry by the Martin government in 2003, is now back under Foreign Affairs.

Peter Mackay, Harper's surprise pick for foreign affairs minister—Stockwell Day had been the party's critic in opposition—has been mostly silent on his government's big picture vision of Canada's place in the world. (A Mackay spokesman declined a request for an interview, saying "it would be inappropriate" for the minister to discuss the government's current or future foreign policy. "Some things are under review," said André Lussier. "There will be changes, but what those changes will be we don't know.") One of Mackay's few public pronouncements came in early March, when he travelled to New York to meet with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and said that Canada will continue to play its traditional, active role in the world body. Asked to explain the difference between Conservative foreign policy and that of the previous Liberal governments, the minister said it will be more decisive—sometimes "instead of trying to tell all things to all people, you have to try and do what you can," said Mackay.

One of Harper's central obsessions is opposition, and in the campaign trail, was the need to repair Canada's frayed relations with the United States. And establishing a good working rapport with the Bush administration appears to be foreign policy job No. 1 for the Tories. Dennis Austin, a former ambassador to the U.S. and a key player in the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, led Harper's transition team. And although that job has finished, he continues on office in the PMO, dispensing advice, especially on cross-border relations. Harper also chose another Mulroney-era heavy hitter, Michael Wilson, the former Finance minister, as Canada's new ambassador in Washington, a move that was pressed warmly by the White House.

While the Harper government may admire the verbiage of the Mulroney era, it's unlikely they want to get as chummy with Bush as the former prime minister did with first Ronald Reagan, and then the current President's father (Mackay's giddy encounter with Condoleezza Rice ended: "It's either the traditional, close-but-not-too-close positioning,"

says Don Barry, a University of Calgary political scientist). As conservative as they are about the democratic relationship, most Canadians have developed a visceral dislike for George W. Bush. And there are continuing cross-border issues that will be difficult for the Conservatives to simply paper over. "How long you can build this friendly line depends directly on results on things like softwood lumber and border access," says Barry.

When it comes to Canada's place in the wider world, the Harper government's mandate over time their ability to walk the walk became a bit thin," says the human rights expert. "The Conservatives have a philosophy, even if they don't have a strategy."

Still, with a predicted shelf life of 18 to 24 months, it was likely that the Harper government's most visible international focus will be the affairs to secure and rebuild Afghanistan. The commitment to keep 2,000 troops in Kandahar expires in early 2007, but the Prime Minister has already indicated that Canada will be in the country for the long haul. "We are bringing back

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Canadian assistance to the Afghan people and we are assisting the Afghan forces with the building of security in their own country," Harper said in the Commons last week. "We are going to be there until we succeed in those goals." Recent suggestions that the military might have to scale back its presence, in order to meet the 13,000 full-time troops and 20,000 reservists the Tories want to add to the armed forces, have met with chilly acceptance from the government. But the combined stresses of the Afghan mission and its expenses

do seem certain to keep Canadians busy pacifying nations in Dufferin.

Intensifying Canada's military presence in Afghanistan also has the added advantage of playing to Harper's own political passions. The rift between the old Progressive Conservatives and Reform Alliance followers has yet to completely heal, notes Terry Senter High Seal. But the muscular foreign policy Harper is championing is his own and appeals to Conservative circles. "It doesn't matter where you go in Canada or what kind of audience you have—Red-Tier, old Red-Tier—if you talk about the need to support our troops or build democracies abroad, people are instantly on their feet," says Seal.

It's all a bit hard for the Liberals to swallow—after all, it was the Martin government that made the commitment to the Kandahar mission. Byron Wilkie, the party's foreign affairs critic, notes that the Liberals also had their own plan for targeting foreign aid and rebuilding the military. "If that's the Conservatives' intention, then they're only looking to build on the foundation we constructed." Tony Martin's policy successor is getting more sensitive than their birds, like their

ALTHOUGH HE WANTS TO REPAIR RELATIONS, HARPER IS UNLIKELY TO GET AS CHUMMY WITH BUSH AS MULRONEY WAS WITH REAGAN

failure to break a loose promise on the soon to be installed president—only one of the U.S. leaders, he says. "They're the ones who hammered us during the campaign on softwood and trade, but then they want us to sign up to these very complex problems." But in these early days of government, it's the tone, not the outcomes, that are most important, some say. Barbara McDougall, who served as external affairs minister under Mulroney, praises Harper's "crisp" foreign policy vision. "Most people know where the government stands and where they hope to take the country," she says, even if it hasn't yet articulated its vision. "It's not a bunch of whips or gums or blue papers on policy. They're speaking with actions." And judging from the positive reviews, Harper has little reason to change his approach. Foreign policy may not end up being a plank in his next election campaign, but it's starting to look like a solid foundation. ■

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CHALLENGE: Cutting funds to Hamas was painful, but Harper has to show results in areas like softwood

about the need to return to "ethical" policymaking, placing human rights and democratic values above other interests, has gained interest. A senior official with a human rights organization gave Mackay high marks after a recent conversation. The new minister was ready to listen, he said, and voters determined that Canada take on a more active role in the development world. Mackay's chief policy adviser, Peter Van Praag, is a veteran of the National Endowment for Democracy, a non-partisan Washington organization that helps build foreign democratic movements and elect party, pluralist governments. "The Liberals were good at talking the talk,

but the combined stresses of the Afghan mission and its expenses



TEAM HARPER: Mackay (left), the PM, and Mulroney-era heavy hitter Wilson



THE UNION didn't know what hit it when Tremblay unleashed the great pothole caper

Talks softly, carries big stick

Montreal Mayor Gérald Tremblay is an honest nerd—and the city union's worst enemy

BY DENIS AUDIN • In Quebec, public-sector unions can make or break governments, union leaders sometimes get thrown in jail, and city/citywide politicians regularly make their name, or figuratively lose their teeth, fighting them in epic battles. So the idea of Gérald Tremblay, the soft-spoken, middle-aged, usually challenged mayor of Montreal—taking on the city's infamous blue-collar workers' unions isn't too good for him or his to pass up. In a recent episode of a satirical puppet show on Radio-Canada television, cartoonist singer Chloé Chouinard teased Tremblay to read the riot act to a blue pants lawling in a city park. The Tremblay puppet came back with a shovel strapped around his head, snarling thuggishly, "They were not very receptive."

That's the mayor's message for you. "He's a loving cartoonist, the word's nerd," Chloé says. In that program, Tremblay came across as the goody, reluctant and glibly polite who says and does things that would embarrass anyone—except, perhaps himself. That's happening, of course, but "in order for a cartoonist to stick it, it has to have a fair amount of truth to it," Chloé says. "We

drew the line in making him look like a fool, though. That wouldn't stick."

Not a fool, of course. Mayor Tremblay is an Outremont lawyer, a Harvard MBA graduate, a former Liberal industry minister who also ran a name, and money, turning around ailing businesses—and has now focused his attention on how one of Canada's biggest cities is administered. It's just that he "has all the charisma of an empty chair," one friend says, and hates fights and squabbles. But here he is, taking on what may be the most powerful union in the land. Maybe the blue felt for the puppet act and thought they could throw sand in Tremblay's face? Think again.

For more than 20 years now, the 6,000-strong blue has been less than receptive to any moves by the municipal government. Members have been known to crash the doors of City Hall with heavy machinery, beat up firemen, blockade major downtown neighbourhoods, dump garbage on a manager's doorstep, and intimidate just about every-

one. A recent study concluded that their productivity level oscillates between 50 and 100 per cent. Just a few weeks ago, union president Michel Parent, stunned after losing a court battle to challenge a work agreement imposed on the blue by a previous court ruling, warned the mayor "to fasten his seatbelt with care, because he's going to rock" (in the meantime, Montrealers are enjoying a long-awaited spring thaw—in a city that's gritty, potholed and litter-covered like never before.)

The blue's taste elicited no public reaction from the placid Tremblay, who comes across as an anomaly in the current landscape of Canadian politics. "Tremblay is a politician in totally apolitical," says André Morin, his image-maker and strategic counsel. Politicians are complex mixtures of idealism and realism, greed and hubris, vision and opportunism, Morrow says, but not Tremblay. "He's exactly like what you are, and he does exactly what he says he does," folds Harold Prosser, a political adviser from the Business press. "Tremblay wasn't a good politician, because he can't sell a lie, and doesn't even know how to renege on a situation. And that's also his biggest strength. He keeps his credibility intact, come what may."

Tremblay's strength image was set for good five years ago, during a televised debate against outgoing mayor Pierre Bourque. It is still remembered as the *Defining Moment*. At one point during that encounter, in front of a board of trade crowd, an aggressive remark by Bourque somehow threw Tremblay off-kilter. He remained silent, smiling, for all of 16 seconds—an eternity that was replayed, over and over, on full-on TV news for days. "That's the only time in my life I had to remain silent until all our damage control made over words a politician had run against," Morrow recalls.

But somehow, an embarrassing moment that would have killed any other politician only made Tremblay more endearing, and he was elected. He got away with even more last fall. After campaigning on a no-nuclear platform, and winning re-election last November, he tabled a \$1.4-billion budget that did contain tax increases for some. That triggered an uproar, of course. So Tremblay apologized for making mistakes, withdrew his first budget, and cooked up another one, free of tax increases. And got away with

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"It's humbling when a former child slave or child who was previously forced into the sex trade or a child who left a farm home presents an award, because they understand what child's rights are." —Clara Kellergers, 28, on the jury that last week awarded her the World Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child for her work on *My Five the Children* charity, which he founded 11 years ago.



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it. "He does not keep his pride where most politicians keep theirs," Postpart says.

Perhaps because he cannot tell a lie, it was hard for Tremblay to keep quiet about his plans for the union. He has never declined



JAMES O'BRIEN/STYLING: GUY A. ROY/STYLING

FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT, the Blue walked

over on the blue, hasn't told the public exactly what he intends to do—and decided to be interviewed by *Maclean's* on the issue. So, when the first blows landed in late February, it took a while before the Blue realized what hit them. Covert descriptions had blined

them as weak—or, rather, not. The news that three weeks are as long as 50 hours to patch up a pothole until it's a pothole for the crime, in the letters "Now the public has a culprit to cheer on, and it's not the mayor," one city hall insider scribbled. The pothole blue was followed by storm warnings in writing that leaders will be suspended, and repeat offenders fired. Then, another day's hammer fell more than 500 Blue who walked off the job to stage a protest at City Hall in February will be suspended without pay for one day. And surely Blue who will

themselves forever will not only be suspended, but will be taken to court. But, anyone who says they had business who asked that he not be identified, "attacking the Blue was not Tremblay's main objective—only the means to a bigger end. Tremblay is turning the whole city administration on its ear. Firemen, district managers, even directors who don't perform will see also under the gun, other trades are being investigated by walkover agents as well."

"The mayor has campaigned on a promise to clean up the city streets, remember?" says Christine Myville-Deschamps, a close adviser

to Tremblay. "What we're doing is changing the culture of the workplace, bringing a bit of sanity back to it." Indeed, politicians must show blame for the Blue's latest attitude, and for the administration's dysfunctional management, says Michael Gagné, a management professor at Université du Québec à Montréal. "They have always wanted to the Blue's demands at the last minute to buy peace. Troublemakers were referred, managers were bypassed and let down."

These troublemakers, Tremblay's encourage

THE MAYOR 'HAS ALL THE CHARISMA OF AN EMPTY CHAIR'—AND THAT'S A FRIEND TALKING

says, are no more than 500 among the 6,000 strong union. Now Tremblay is going to improve management—although he will never admit outright that it has been part of the problem—hoping the Blue's fire tone will cool off as the situation improves. "The union is divided in the moment, and divided over which course to follow in the future," says the city hall business. "No bar they're dismantled. They were hoping to see a real time changing his gloves. Instead, they found a slick business dealing circles around them."



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SHH, SOMEONE IS LISTENING

A new film about the notorious Stasi finally marks the end of nostalgia for the East German past

BY MICHAEL PETROSS In 1988, the year before the Berlin Wall was torn down and Communism in Europe began its irreversible collapse, East Germany's secret police force, the Stasi, employed 91,000 people and ruled over another 170,000 informants, known as "unofficial collaborators." In other words, at least one out of every 50 adults was directly involved with the dreaded secret police. The Stasi was everywhere. They penetrated and controlled East German society in a way Adolf Hitler's Gestapo never tried. "It was a radical anti-polymy system," says Robert Gellert, a historian at Florida State University.

And yet after the Berlin Wall came down and East Germans were free to explore the Communist era in film, few chose to openly depict the brutality and horror of the Stasi. How can you confront your past when so

many are still living? Lies are more difficult to tell than the truth. You don't want to offend your friends, or offend the Stasi, or offend the Stasi's victims, or offend the Stasi's victims' families. But in Germany the Stasi is still a taboo subject. "The basic story is in-



THE MOVIE is a blunt look at the Stasi, when one person in 50 was an informer



many are still living? Instead, many of the most successful post-1989 German movies about life in East Germany were comic and imbued with nostalgia, a sort of coming-of-age story for the time during the Cold War. They joked about the Stasi's secret police and shabby apartments, but few dealt with the Stasi.

This year, however, a newly released German film is confronting audiences with history and challenging portrayals of the secret police. *The Lives of Others* (The Lives of Others), by former feature director Florian Henckels von Donnersmarck, is the first feature film about the Stasi. Germany's top film prize, securing nominations in 11 of 15 categories. It tells the story of a Stasi captain who is assigned to spy on a successful playwright after a tip-off from the playwright's girlfriend. The film is riveting and unflinching. Men are

men and true and beautiful, by which I mean really very ugly," wrote Wolf Biermann, a rising writer and former Stasi German dissident, who was denounced by Communist authorities as a "class traitor" and called to the Stasi. "No matter how you might have behaved in the days of fear and danger, all that matters in the here and now is that you don't deny or play down the weakness of others."

He is Viktor, a professor of German literature at the University of Tübingen,

says in a scene suggesting that it has taken longer than Germany's long to look at their role in the Communist era. "It was the role of the Stasi," he says. "People were not ready for it. They were used to a life of luxury and their liberty was restricted. But the government looked after them. They didn't know that with freedom comes responsibility. Many of them—not all—looked back with nostalgia at the confusion of the past they had lost."

Wittel himself had an encounter with the Stasi as a young teenager in 1952. He was a French film student assigned to play a com-
munist in a film about the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. The French film is a sensitive treatment. "His names can be made to sound like they're



coming from a dispositive track," he explains. "And that's what I did." Wittel was brought in for questioning, refused to sign a document, and was sent to the West. He says the film's role as a Stasi agent had no lives of their own but led to a violent, necessary death of the victims they controlled and killed. "But that's not the point," he says. "It was not about the Stasi, it was about the Stasi's victims."

Stefan Lind, a researcher and spokesman at the German National Memorial, a Stasi museum in Berlin, says that for young Ger-
mans, the film is a blunt look at the reality of the Stasi. "It's a young people's film from East Germany, it was inevitable to be involved in this system somehow. And I think a lot of people, they perhaps felt ashamed of the role they played and the way they lived in East Germany. And perhaps this movie was an outlet way to come to terms with your own past," he says.

"The internet is very great in this film. It's all about a discussion for different than the comic story. It's not about the future brings, but it provides an opportunity to follow a much more serious discussion." ■



COLORADO: DOES THE DOORMAN HAVE PULL?
When the cops swooped down on the Blue Essence strip club in the Denver suburbs of Federal Heights last week, they arrested five dancers, a disc jockey and the owner for concealing an illegal adult entertainment venue. One employee who wasn't colored was the doorman, which is just as well, since Detective Sparks who happens to be the mayor of Federal Heights. Sparks has taken a 10-week leave of absence from city hall.

French fries and sneakers: pure evil



Earlier this month, a British-based research fellow called the *Power Consumer* released a report on corporate ethics, naming McDonald's as the world's most unethical company in the eyes of the British public. Other named among the list of infamous corporate miscreants included Nike, Adidas, Coca-Cola, American Express and BP.

There was a surprise in the bunch: Adidas and Nike made the list of evilers because they manufacture shoes and clothes for North American and European hipsters in Third World factories where labor standards are lax, working conditions are dismal, and children are sometimes grown up to resemble their parents on the assembly floor. "These workers, who fill out sneakers on Converse shoes, feel guilty every time they pull on their trainers to play tennis or brush."

BP makes the list because it's a giant oil company. And everybody knows oil companies reek the earth and destroy the atmosphere to feed the West's unquenchable thirst for energy. That makes yuppies feel guilty when they pump around 150 into the tanks of their SUVs.

McDonald's is a chronic member of the Club of Shame. Why? "Because it makes unemployment and skills in rural quarters. Unemployed in modern times, more materials are plentiful to resist, and the materials they feel guilty every time they step on a scale. The guys at Super Size Me that drank three meals a day for a month and nearly died (or worse) and that you can't fight. They might as well sell bags of bricks to go to hell."

Rose Frest, the brains behind the poll, generated the results as a third walk-up to major corporations. "At the moment, a large proportion of consumers feel conflicted, they love ethical concerns about certain products, but still buy their products," she noted. "What matters that are more in moral ethical become available, though, many of these companies will be vulnerable."

It's a familiar message, already delivered with the same stark urgency. The team had better drop it out or prepare to reap the consequences. The public's distrust of major corporations has become so ingrained in modern culture that few even stop to question it anymore. And that's just the problem: when you do stop to question the list, the survey is the one, and the dozens of surveys just like that come out every month, immediately begin to lose their meaning.

A person who is truly concerned about corporate ethics and the state of the world might wonder, for example, how is it that a large of unethical corporations doesn't feature a single mining company, or defense contractor, or tobacco manufacturer? And what of the companies who were named on the list? How did they escape to embody everything that's wrong with global commerce?

Forget selling arms. Apparently, peddling burgers is the world's most unethical pursuit.

BP is considered merely banal, despite the fact that it's among the world leaders in the development of alternative energy technology. In 2003, BP changed its branding from British Petroleum to Beyond Petroleum, and was one of the first major energy companies to admit the threat posed by global warming, and pledge to fight it.

But what's even worse is acknowledging Nike as one of the best companies in North America for ensuring that its standards are met in its Asian suppliers. Last year, it released a list of more than 2,600 suppliers for which it was going to scrutinize. It's also one of the biggest donors in Third World charities, and a recent ethics audit by James Research, clearly approved company that scored higher was Adidas.

McDonald's has been a favorite target of anti-corporate campaigners for ages. But after many years of bad publicity—on everything from animal cruelty to environmental degradation and wasteful packaging—the company has introduced dozens of reforms to its supplier agreements and more. In the same Jones audit, McDonald's scored second only to Starbucks in a ranking of the most socially responsible food companies.

These are hardly isolated examples. Practically every major company now has a code

of conduct and a team of paramours dedicated to enforcing ethical standards on everything from environmental policy to philanthropy. They're hardly perfect, but rather than building on successes, activists now use the same old charges again and again, and feed the endless cycle of cynicism and distrust.

What's more is self-censoring movement, aimed at getting businesses to anticipate the greater good, has morphed into an industry unto itself. It's the conscience industry, and it's driven by usage consultants and public social lobbyists, more of whom can present a coherent vision of what it means to be ethical. Instead, the public is fed a constant diet of anti-corporate polemics like *The Corporation*, *No Logo* and *Super Size Me*, all purporting to be a hard-core, sweeping story into a bleak dystopia driven by insidious greed. These self-appointed reformers have



McDONALD'S CEO Donalton: More markets aren't meat

been phenomenally successful at raising concern, but have failed utterly to create understanding. They're selling a code of anti-corporate liberalism as high demand on the university sympathy circuit, but their attack is all or nothing, so light, and it's getting old.

The result is a world in which anti-corporate discourse has been business with regressive discourse while tech companies eagerly sell Americans in anything democratic rights, and yet so many generations of supposedly intelligent people universally believe the world's most unethical corporation sells hamburgers.

Getting the corporations to change was the easy part. Now it's the reformer's turn. ■



FALLING OUT OF BED IN SLUMBERLAND
Shirley Ogden, having just completed 25 years of service at Slumberland, a British bedding chain, went to a good night from her boss, who asked her to work and flexibility. But the company for the 47-year-old account executive had been heavily involved when the owner closed after he died from a heart-failing aneurysm. Ogden plans to sue Slumberland, which boasts the slogan, "All the support you need—all the comfort you deserve."

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HEALTH



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PRIVATE MEDICAL CARE IN CANADA

+ Private medical providers are rapidly expanding their services across the country, but even the industry's own advocacy group lacks definitive numbers on the size and scope of the private health care sector. The new world of for-profit medical service has been crying out for a consumer guide to what's available, what it costs, who's offering it, and how to pay for it. Here it is: a Canadian first. **BY ALEXANDRA SHIMO**

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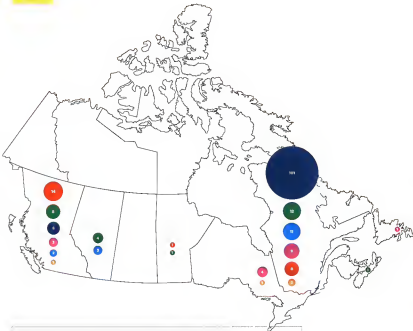
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PRIVATE HEALTH CARE HOT SPOTS

It's not what you might expect. The leaders are B.C. and Quebec, not Alberta.

● PET scans

Considered the gold standard in cancer diagnosis. Two of the four private PET scanners in Canada are in Montreal.

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There is a huge demand for both CT and MRI scans. The national median wait time for CT scans is 5.5 weeks.

● MRI scans

The national median wait time for MRI scans is 13.3 weeks. B.C. and Quebec have the highest number of private MRI scans.

● Cataract surgery

Aging boomers are fueling a huge market in private cataract clinics. Cataracts, cataracts can cause blindness.

● Doctors who have opted out

An extraordinary number of doctors (101) have left the public health system in the province of Quebec.

● Surgical clinics

Private surgeons in Canada do everything from routine surgery to full hip and knee replacements.

If all goes according to plan, this summer will see another watershed moment in the evolution of private health care across the nation. The Copeman Healthcare Centre, which already operates a private clinic in Vancouver, is planning to open three more—in Ottawa, Toronto and London, Ont.—in part of its push to have competition in every part of Canada by next year. There are now 16 cities offering specialty surgeries, or multi-surgeon care for the growing elite. In fact, they will let Canadians pay for quicker, better access to the overall players in the health care system—family doctors. For an initial annual fee of \$5,000 per person (half that for 12 years and younger are free), and \$2,000 per month for subsequent years, patients will be able to buy a health care package including unlimited visits with a family doctor, and consulting from a range of health professionals. Patients can phone up in the middle of the night and talk to a nurse, and if necessary, they'll be transferred to a doctor. In Ontario, Don Copeman sees a huge potential market in the estimated 1.4 million people who don't have a family doctor.

"The public system will never be able to afford the provision of comprehensive, preventive health services that we offer," he says. "Governments don't have the funding to provide these services and politically it's not fashionable. They would literally have to find billions of new health care dollars and the public is not eager to accept that either."

increasing tax burden."

Paying for access to family doctors would mark a monumental shift in Canadian health care, says Colleen Flood, the Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy. For many Canadians, they are the first and only point of access to the system. They expedite a patient's access to specialists in both primary and tertiary care, and act as the gatekeeper to cutting-edge care. They also have a lot of influence over how long a patient waits for treatment. "They can try and help their patients get faster service with specialism by making phone calls depending on their connections and depending on the patient's need," says Flood. Doctors who have fewer patients have more time to be a patient's advocate, and Copeman's clinics promise four times more doctors per patient than in the public system.

Private medicine is rapidly closing the options available to patients in Canada. What once provided only economic proof around after hours MRIs is now a dynamic, multi-faceted industry serving thousands of Canadians and providing a host of treatment options. Catalyst MD, for example, hopes to open six free clinics across the country and one in Vancouver in the fall. The clinics will offer various surgery—a procedure that was formerly available only in the public system in the province. Patients will be able to jump the public's median wait list time of 50 weeks, for a cost of \$1,500-\$1,000 per eye. In Montreal, the country's first private emergency



EMERGENCY CARE

Broken ankle? In pain? No waiting

Ped with a broken ankle and a sprained wrist, Dr. Luc Bessette and two other emergency room doctors opened out of the public system in Quebec and started the country's first private emergency medical clinic at Montreal. The clinic does not have the full facilities of a hospital, but it has treated patients experiencing heart attacks, broken ankles, and a head-on collision with a car.

Bessette who reported her last case was published almost daily, she said, while waiting in a local clinic. After 24 hours, she left the waiting room and went to Clinique

medica's MD Hui Bessette saw her right away. She was conscious, lively and healthy. Her injuries were mild and bright red Bessette did not tell Dennis in the time, but he suspected her symptoms were caused by streptococcus A—the bacterium that can cause flesh-eating disease. He arranged for her to receive treatment at the infectious disease department at Montreal's Royal Victoria Hospital. Today, she is in good health and credits Bessette with saving her life.

About 10 per cent of the clinic's patients need immediate treatment for cancer emergencies such as strokes, brain aneurysms. If patients buy a coverage plan they get an appointment with a doctor within half a working day. Because the clinic does not have the capabilities of a hospital, it cannot stay open 24/7, and uses patients only during normal business hours and Saturday until 4 p.m. The facility is now expected to treat people with major emergencies. When these patients arrive, the clinic does what it can, and transfers them to the public system. "Please don't come here if you have a major

clinic—Clinique médicale MD-Main—opened in October 2004. This month, the Westmount Square Surgical Center added total knee replacement to its list of services, a complex procedure offered by only one other private facility in Canada. The Vancouver-based Cambie Surgery Centre plans to follow suit when its negotiations with the provincial government are completed.

It's difficult to estimate the full size or role of private health care in Canada. Most provinces track only the services available to the public system, and though the private system has an advocacy group, the Canadian Independent Medical Clinics Association,

'BECBERS ARE LEADING THE WAY BECAUSE THEY ARE MORE OPEN-MINDED,' SAYS AN INDUSTRY INSIDER

it doesn't track the number of practitioners, patients or procedures. But the Maclean's complete guide to private health care reveals a growing industry. (1) private surgical centers offering medical services nationwide; (2) private cancer clinics; and in Quebec, (3) doctors have already opted out of the public system entirely to work privately.

The Canadian Institute for Health Information estimates private care for health care spending will reach \$43.2 billion this year, up from \$32 billion five years ago (with more than half of those dollars going toward drugs and devices). These numbers have grown fast, and are only going to get bigger, says Bruce Sinclair, director of health policy

research with the Fraser Institute. "There are more and more people being affected by the problems in the Canadian health care system, and that is driving acceptance of private for-profit care," he says. "The game is out of the bottle, and there's no going back." Dr. Jeffrey Brook, who runs MediCare, a medical consultancy firm based in Montreal, agrees. "Business isn't getting what they need in the public system, and are looking for other services," he says.

In part, it's a simple matter of supply and demand. At the moment, 375,000 Canadians are on waiting lists for medical treatment, and many expect this to grow as their popu-

lation ages. In 2004, the Conference Board of Canada reported that health care already consumes close to a third of all provincial revenues, and by 2020 that will rise to 44 per cent, just to maintain current levels of service. With medical expenses already projected to rise by \$5 billion a year without doing anything to reduce wait times or improve care, it seems unlikely that governments will be able to continue spending more money on the demand for services. "Healthcare, as it is currently designed, is unsustainable," said Glen Robson, director of health programs for the Conference Board.

Not surprisingly, those with the means are looking for alternatives, more expedient op-

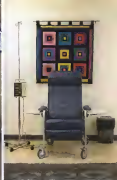
tions. According to a Decima Research poll conducted in June, negative ratings of the country's health care system have now eclipsed positive ratings, increasing the pressure for change. And the quality many Canadians had about "two out of three care" are falling. The Decima poll found that a majority of Canadians now approve of private health care—51 per cent said they thought private family doctors were a good or very good idea. In Quebec and British Columbia, those figures were 58 per cent and 51 per cent respectively.

In terms of the spread of dissatisfaction with Canada's publicly funded system, it has begun to break down Canadian's traditional hostility toward for-profit health. Maclean's recently polled 1,750 readers and found 64 per cent said they, or a family member, have asked what they consider to be an astronomical amount of time for medical treatment or tests. And

while many advocates of public health care have longed for the threat of so-called "two-tier" medical service, many Canadians no longer see that as such a bad option. Respondents were closely split on the wisdom of establishing a parallel private/public system: 42 per cent in favor, 46 per cent opposed, and 14 per cent on the fence.



ONE OF 322 opening rooms: Vancouver's Cambie Surgery Centre (left), where total knee replacements cost \$30,000. Toronto's Provia Infusion Clinic provides cancer care



to "accept general practitioners." There are already doctors who have chosen to focus on one of the following fields: oncology, gynecology, urology, cardiology, pain management, ophthalmology, women's health, sports injury, or orthopedics. The range of services at Coppsen is tailored to real life, the tag goes around.

Coppsen's intent is to let members on the path toward optimum health. This journey begins as soon as patients sign up. At their first visit, they are evaluated by a team of health professionals. The team performs a multitude of screens and tests, and introduces the new member to health. Nutrition, diet, stress management and family medical history are all assessed. With this information, the team composes a profile of the patient, including his or her susceptibility to certain diseases.

To prevent these particular health risks from becoming a reality, every member is then assigned another team that includes lifestyle coaches, dietitian, dentists, kinesiologists, exercise physiologists, insurance

or international facilities. The center's goal is to let doctors will do their best to expedite care for the public system, financially necessary for the patient.

Companies signing up their employees for membership are given a few extra perks, including employee health screening and an insurance program. There is also a 24-hour toll-free hotline that offers medical advice and access to a member's medical file at any time or site. It's all in writing on holiday. The hotline is available to both individual and corporate members.

At present, the only Coppsen Healthhouse Centre is in Vancouver. However, new clinics are scheduled to open in Toronto, Ottawa and London by late summer. By the end of 2007, Coppsen plans to have 12 clinics open in every major city in Canada.

PRICES: \$1,500 a year or \$100 a month per person for the first year. For subsequent years, the cost is \$1,300 a year or \$100 a month. If one parent is aged up, children 12 and under are free.

FINANCING

How to get a loan for that new hip

If the wait for private procedures are beyond your budget, financing options are available. Several companies offer to finance your medical care, including Medifund Finance and CareCredit. Thousands of Canadians rely on these services—private clinics rarely have payment plans and usually ask for full payment up front, before proceeding with treatment.

The largest Canadian company offering medical financing is Medifund Finance. Founded in 1994 (the wait was then living in British Columbia), Medifund has provided loans to



FAMILY PHYSICIANS

More face time with your doctor

When Dr. Gordon Den Coppsen opened his clinic in Vancouver last November, the media had a field day. "It's good to have a doctor to 'talk to,'" proclaimed the *Vancouver Sun*. "U.S.-style private health clinics," proclaimed the CBC. "It's preferential access to care," warned the NDP health critic David Coderley.

Why the big fuss? Coppsen was offering a service that had hitherto been very difficult to purchase in Canada: more face time with doctors. For \$5,000 a year, his clients may call anytime 24/7, and if need be, talk to a doctor. The clinic also offers unlimited access

to "expert general practitioners." There are already doctors who have chosen to focus on one of the following fields: oncology, gynecology, urology, cardiology, pain management, ophthalmology, women's health, sports injury, or orthopedics. The range of services at Coppsen is tailored to real life, the tag goes around.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY ROGER LAMONCE (LEFT)

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROGER LAMONCE (RIGHT)



MD MAJOR now operates private, MD-PR

emergency," Bennett says. "Wait until we open our private hospital."

HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
PRICES: \$100 an hour (there is a 30-minute minimum of \$100). Lab tests, blood work and vaccines are all done privately and charged separately. Patients can buy year-long coverage plans. A complete checkup plus one other visit costs \$999. A complete checkup plus one visit costs \$1,499.

A.S.

A.S.

their own. "In some serious cases, patients die as a result of waiting lists for public health care," the decision said. "The prohibition on obtaining private health insurance... is not constitutional where the public system fails to deliver reasonable services. Life, liberty and security of the person must prevail."

This decision has created a fundamental shift in the legal landscape of public health care, Magar says. "Governments are now on notice that they have to deal with their waiting lists. It's now evident that under the case there's been a tremendous amount of money in the health-care system and getting rid of waiting lists. None of that money occurred before Charrall. Governments were perfectly happy to just leave it all under the rug."

The decision served to make a lot of private health care providers, coming soon to expand their menu of services. The ruling also encouraged orthopaedic surgeon Brian Day to offer more complex surgeries at his Canby Surgery Centre. The decision also encouraged management at Winnipeg's Maple Surgical Centre to expand their services. They are currently in negotiations with Manitoba Health.

Private health care in Canada is a hot issue that's increased considerably in the very short. It's about providing options to people who are waiting to be treated in pain and have had to pay their bills on their own. For some, it's about getting access to life-saving drugs or cutting-edge treatments



ONCE A NURSING HOME, the Duxie Orthopaedic Clinic does knee replacement surgery. Patients don't need a doctor's referral; they can call directly.

that aren't funded by the public system. In this, the first-ever guide to the burgeoning industry of for-profit medical care, Medicaid details what is available, what is most said

where to get the services that are increasingly in demand. It also explains private sector firms that offer ways to access public care in a more timely fashion.

"The very term 'private healthcare' often causes confusion," says Canadian coordinator for for-profit facilities to begin the private system, even when they bill the gov-

ernment for all services, and patients pay nothing from their own pockets. These sorts of facilities—like the Garfield Eye Centres in Alberta, and the Shoulder Hospital north of Toronto—are now well connected in the public system, so much so, in fact, that when NDP Leader Jack Layton had hernia surgery at Shoulder in the 1990s, he didn't realize it wasn't a purely private facility. In any case, the government paid the bill, and that makes it a public facility. "It's just part of the system," Layton said this year when questioned about the procedure. "The doctor says, 'Go home. You pay with your [Ontario health] card. I've never occurred to me [it was] anything other

than strictly care to travel for it. Out of province patients have become an important market, and private providers usually cater to them accordingly." The Canby Surgery Centre in B.C. admits double when they'll be in a position to travel home, given that so many of its patients come from out of province. Medical insurance, in other words, is not just about heading to look at the U.S., but it is an industry we can call our own.

Quebec has the most comprehensive and advanced private health care in the country. More doctors have opted out of public medicine in Quebec (10) than the rest of the provinces put together (5). There are more

DESPITE RALPH KLEIN'S REPUTATION, ALBERTA IS A CLOSED SHOP FOR PRIVATE MEDICAL SERVICES

than anywhere, which is it?

For the purposes of this guide, private options are defined, in essence, by who pays. If the patient pays, either for purely private care, or for faster care in the public system—paying a consultant, for example, to jump the queue and gain quicker access in a certain specialty—then the service he's paying for is considered private.

The amount available across the country varies widely from province to province (see map, page 12). Some, such as New Brunswick and P.E.I., have no private health care provision. Others, namely Quebec and British Columbia, have seen an explosion in growth.

The decision encourages these who

private cancer clinics in the province than anywhere else in Canada. Only in Quebec are there private PET/CT scanners, which are widely considered the gold standard in cancer diagnosis (page 46).

The centre of all this activity is Montreal, which local media have dubbed "the private health care capital of Canada." The city is home to the country's first private emergency clinic (page 31), and the only private surgeon in Canada offering full hip replacements (at the David Orthopaedic Clinic, page 17). In this city, there are more private cancer clinics (5) than anywhere else in the country (38). Only in Montreal can you pay to have your vaccines done at home, or

more than 100,000 Canadians across the country. (According to Kaplan, Medicaid's share of the medical financing market in Canada is 90 per cent.)

Kaplan, whose husband is the renowned Toronto plastic surgeon Steven McWhinney (there is no connection between Medicaid and Dr. McWhinney's practice), was one of the first to recognize the need for financing for the

growing trend of cosmetic surgery. She started not offering loans for these kinds of procedures. In addition, she simplified the application process, so it could be done while waiting in the doctor's office or even from home.

Kaplan now offers financing for all sorts of private surgical procedures, both medical and cosmetic. Interest rates are about three per cent higher than they are for a conventional loan, she says, because of the lack of collateral. (Larger breaches at a more shapely asset may be very valuable to those who purchase them, but are not considered assets, at least when applying for a loan.)

Most Medicaid loans are for less than \$15,000. Applications can be made by phone, fax, or email and can be processed in about 10 minutes. Loans for larger amounts require more detailed applications. **A.B.**



SPECIALISTS

An appointment in days, not weeks

The Specialist Referral Clinic is located across the street from the Canby Surgery Centre, a private hospital in downtown Vancouver both were founded by Dr. Brian Day. It is headed by orthopaedic surgeon who will be president of the Canadian Medical Association in August 1997.

The clinic often accepts private patients phone the clinic and tell the secretary what type of specialist they would like to see. Appointments with any type of specialist—one who specializes in orthopaedics—can be arranged. (Day says all his specialist work in the public system while providing these independent

assessments.) A doctor's referral is not necessary, as is waiting; the medical receptionist gets the patient an appointment usually within a week. If the patient doesn't know what type of specialist he needs, he can talk to a doctor. Most patients already know what kind of specialist they want to see, Day says, because they have already seen doctors in the public system and are looking for a second opinion or exploring their private options.

Currently, all of the specialist patients are referred to see in B.C., and most of them are in Vancouver. However, Day's group plans to offer the service in Ontario within 18 months. At the moment, they are searching for Ontario-based partners.

PRICE \$400-\$700 for the appointment with the specialist, depending on the type of specialist you want to see. Includes arranging the transfer of the patient's

medical file, if needed. **PUBLIC WAIT:** The clinic takes to see a specialist varies greatly between provinces and type of specialist. For example, in Alberta, there is a median wait of 26 weeks to see an orthopaedic surgeon, but just two weeks to see a cardiovascular surgeon. The median wait time to see a specialist in Canada is 5.3 weeks.

PRIVATE WAIT: Within two weeks, though usually a week. It may be longer if a specific doctor is required.

"But time information from Winnipeg (Dr. Day's) helped me get my son in Canada, by Victoria. I called and talked to him, published by the Fraser Institute in 2001. The median is calculated from the following specialties: cardiovascular surgery, general surgery, gynecology, oral medicine, medical oncology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopaedic surgery, urology, pediatrics, plastic surgery, nuclear oncology, oncology. **A.B.**

BRIAN DAY: "HAPPY TO HELP"



PHOTOGRAPH BY ASSET LINGCHART PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY GRIFFIN



ANY KAPLAN's Medicaid provides financing help



ORTHOPEDICS

Knees, hips and Montreal meals

Four years ago, Dr. Nicolas David was working at Notre-Dame and St-Luc Hospitals in Montreal, utterly frustrated. Renowned for his skills as an orthopaedic surgeon, he spent more time doing paperwork and discussing policy than practicing. He specifically "hates" the word "knee" in his medical file. "I don't want to use that word, whenever you get out of practice. In the public system, you're spending more time getting out back with a lot of practice, only one day a week. I was not allowed to do what I had been trained to do—orthopaedic surgery."

After opening one of the private systems, David

country service. This is known as "double billing" and violates the Health Act. But enforcement has been spotty. (Last year, the British Columbia government kept track of private clinics charging for medically necessary services by looking through old newspaper clippings.)

Some clinics charge "facility fees" to patients, while passing the doctors' fees along to the government. Through the 1990s, Dr. Goss kept a list on his practice by withholding federal transfer payments to provinces that allowed it. That effectively kept for-profit medical centers confined to elective procedures like laser eye surgery, MRI tests and plastic surgery. With the rise in patient demand, however, some private clinics have found innovative ways of billing patients. For example, Contrast MD combines laser eye surgery with cosmetic surgery as part of a package.

But in the wake of the Chouhdi decision, there may be no more need for creative ways to work within the law. Many private health promoters are anticipating that any and all medical services can now be provided on a for-profit basis, and are ramping up plans to recruit services and open offices across the country. "In the wake of the Supreme Court decision, a fully open parallel private system is now allowed," Elster Bennett says. "Previously, any province that said, 'We're going to allow a private payment option, forget what the Canada Health Act says,' would be punished with the reduction of federal transfer payments. Now I think they could suc-



WELLNESS CENTRES like this MedWest clinic will coordinate care of U.S. facilities, and protect from overcharging

cessfully go to free the owners and argue that that priority is unconstitutional."

There remain a number of other restrictions on private health care. For example, doctors are forbidden from providing medically necessary services in both the private and the public system, and

providers have been reluctant to give hospital doctors to private providers. The legal restrictions have ensured that most every medical service is up for sale. The most complex exceptions must be done in a hospital, and private hospitals are few and far between.

Patients who can't access the care they need in this country can travel outside of

Canada, and with wait lists growing, increasingly they're doing just that. This has spawned the growth of an industry in Canada—medical tourism and medical travel agents. These would like to help arrange travel and care at a private clinic, either in an overseas or cross-border facility. The country has medical travel agencies, such as Med-Isolation, specialists in out-of-country care. MedIsolation has business relationships with hospitals in France, Turkey and India, and arranges cosmetic and medical procedures at these locations. Other medical travel agencies, such as Vancouver-based Tandy Medical Alternatives, deal directly with private clinics in North America. The company offers package deals on hotels and operations at U.S. clinics not more than a two-hour drive from the border.

Patients who pay out of pocket for medically necessary care may be eligible for government reimbursement, says Brian J. Cohen, a health law lawyer based in Toronto. Cohen has represented doctors seeking reimbursements for medical services not covered by their government health plans and has several precedent-setting cases for patients seeking treatment in funding, both in Canada and in the United States, for care not previously covered by their provincial plans. Last year, he persuaded the Ontario Health Insurance Plan to pay for a patient to be treated with the colon cancer drug Folfolin at a British hospital. At the time, the drug had not yet been approved by Health Canada, but Cohen still won the case for reimbursement.

THERE'S AN ENORMOUS SENSE OF FRUSTRATION. PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF PUTTING THEIR LIVES ON HOLD.

"If the service is truly medically necessary, then the provincial health plan has to cover the cost, but in Canada we can't," Cohen says. Cohen has helped other cancer patients with funding for hospital-based drug treatments available outside but not in Canada. The U.S. leads Canada by several years in both cutting-edge treatment and drug availability for cancer, stresses William Hyndman of the Cancer Advisory Coalition. For this reason, there are several services in Canada that help patients with access to the most advanced cancer care outside. The consulting firm MedWest arranges appointments and treatment plans with

renowned oncologists in the United States. These treatment plans can either be followed once back in Canada, or if the treatment is unavailable, pursued at a clinic in the United States. The renowned American cancer druggist M.D. Anderson has a Toronto office, which co-ordinates the travel and treatment of patients seeking cancer care at their clinic in Houston (page 44).

Currently, Canadians still look forward to the most advanced treatment, in what is their own waiting room. Frustration with the public system has led U.S. firms to set up shops here in part to funnel patients south of the border. Canadian companies are now cap-

turing on this same demand. For the hundreds of thousands of patients on wait lists and in pain, this is a welcome shift. Day says. "Canadians are looking to new treatments and technologies to keep them in optimum health, and are happy to pay for what cannot be provided in the public system. This leaves an important role for private health care. The public sector doesn't have the resources to purchase and utilize these new technologies. This is an interesting and dynamic time in this country. There's an enormous sense of frustration with the public system. There are close to a million on waiting lists, and there are people tired of putting their lives on hold." ■



They'll spell out all your options

Confused by all the possibilities? You are not alone—which is partly why MedExtra came into existence. In 1992, the company's founder, Dr. Jeffrey Block, was working as an emergency room doctor in Montreal. A friend was having a hard time getting out a medical problem in the public system—he was being passed from doctor to doctor and wasn't getting the treatment he needed. As a personal favour, Block took him case on, and agreed to work as an unofficial medical consultant.

Block used his inside knowledge of the health care system to find out which doctors were best suited to treat his friend and to help

him book the appropriate care needed. When other people had similar problems accessing health care, he helped them too. Decided for his expertise quickly spread, and in 2001, Block stopped working full-time as a doctor to launch MedExtra. To date, he has assisted more than 5,000 Canadians.

One of the reasons patients on their own don't get the care they need, he says, is because doctors don't have the information they require at their fingertips, since they are generalist and permanent information is not always transferred from one doctor to another. Nor, he adds, do doctors always have time to dig out appropriate information from five years ago, or decipher pages of illegible physician notes. MedExtra takes care of these details at patients' request, interviews the patient, and summarizes his case

history in a few pages of notes. Doctors are faced with a "more management oriented" with every appointment, so even an overworked doctor can get a full picture of the patient's health in just a few minutes.

The MedExtra team says it keeps abreast of the latest medical breakthroughs and knows which doctors are using the most advanced techniques. Clients are told about new drugs that are just hitting the market. The company has even required medications for cancer pa-

tients that are not yet available in the public system. MedExtra lets patients know what their public and private options are, in Canada and the U.S. Private care across the border is almost always more expensive than private medicine in this country, Block says. "We do what we can in Canada, so it's either covered under Medicare, or it's done pri-

marily in Montreal at a fraction of the U.S. cost." Block says. Canadian pay higher prices in U.S. hospitals than Americans. (U.S. insurance companies pay medical care in a district rate and some of this is passed on to their clients.) "So," he says, "the danger is that when you go down to a U.S. hospital and pay for everything yourself, you're going to end up with a very big bill. You might as well hand them a blank check."

PRICES: Patients can pay by the hour, or they can purchase a membership. Prices per hour: \$150. Individual membership: \$250 to \$500 a year. Corporate membership: \$4 to \$50 a month per employee.

Membership buys a consultant's time—more expensive plans allow more time with the consultant. Another membership perk is listings on the cost of private health care in Canada and the U.S. MedExtra has relationships with 4,000 health care facilities across North America, Block says, and is able to screen doctors' notes for patients. A.S.



How to get a better physical

Executive health clubs, also known as "wellness centers," offer a more exclusive and personalized approach to health care. Clients are usually corporations, and the aim is to provide every possible service to keep employees fit, healthy and productive.

At the core of the service is an "executive physical." This is a thorough checkup, including blood pressure screening, abdominal ultrasound, hearing test, cholesterol levels, fitness appraisal, stress electrocardiogram, blood counts for anemia, glucose count for diabetes risk, urine and stool for pox or kidney stones.

And if they find a problem? The exact protocol depends on the provider, but many of these centers refer patients to doctors in both private and public systems. The largest wellness program, such as MedSpa Health Group and Madison Clinic, have relationships with family doctors and specialists in the public system. "Our doctors, who are practicing with a lot of them are still practicing in the public system, and so what they may very well do is take that individual into their public practice so they are cared for right away," says Shari Gornickoff, vice-president of sales for MedSpa. "We have affiliated doctors in



EXCLUSIVE physicals include ultrasounds



FOR EXECUTIVES, stress testing is a critical part of private medical services

every major city in Canada to help over 12,000 members. Our doctors are committed to giving the best care possible to Medisys members. We try to do what's recommended, when ever it's needed."

Medisys will also coordinate the care of patients who choose medical treatments outside the country. The company has relationships with many U.S. health-care facilities, so it can often offer savings on the price of treatment across the border. For U.S. procedures, a Medisys doctor will manage and oversee a client's medical care so that the patient receives the right treatment and is not overcharged, Gendreau says. The company also sends the treating physician an electronic copy of the patient's medical file.

One of the ways in which Medisys justifies its annual treatment fee to its members is through a provision in the Canada Health Act that allows referred to as "third-party" travel by a provision that allowed workers' compensation board cases, members of the armed forces, and the RCMP to receive an medical treatment, this provision is now in jeopardy more loosely. Patients who have a third party (such as an employer) paying the cost of their medical bills can often avoid waiting in line. Timely treatment is also facilitated through the use of Medisys facilities in Quebec. Members can avoid waiting for an MRI or CT scan at their own province to the public system by using the private company's facilities in Montreal.

MEDISYS PRICES

Annual executive assessment \$800-\$1,200
Concierge service ("Medisys One") includes

14-hour hotline, coordination of specialist appointments, 24/7 access to nurse or doctor.
Concierge service for concierge \$1,000-\$1,500 per employee, depending on number of employees who sign up.
Concierge service for individuals \$1,500.
Corporations have access to a number of other services, such as disability management, which helps facilitate travel of unpaid employees' spendly team to work and which also manages the claims of those workers. (Medisys is partnered with the Sun Life Medical Insurance Company.)



MEDICAL TRAVEL AGENTS

Sun, sea, sand and a new set of knees

Until recently, sun, sea, sand and a new knee were rarely sold together as part of a package. But the rise of medical travel agents (or medical brokers) is making those kinds of trips much more common and convenient. It might seem like a tiny niche market, but eight Canadian companies (several of them based in U.S.) offer such a service. The destinations are as wide-ranging as the companies on offer. Some medical travel agencies place patients in private clinics in Canada and in the U.S. Others look further afield to destinations in India,

Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, France and Turkey. Often the destination is tied to a particular specialty—the Krishna Heart & Super Specialty Institute in Ahmedabad, India, for instance, has a good reputation for cardiovascular treatments and, according to its agent's website, excellent vegetarian cuisine. To succeed in this business, a medical travel agent must give the trust of the patient travelling: point out the benefits of the trip are often part of the service. What is more, if ever, included is any post-operative care back in Canada. Physiotherapy and follow-up care on the patient's responsibility and if done privately should be funded into the cost.

One of the medical travel agents operating in Canada, Timely Medical Adventures, sends patients to private hospitals in Canada and the U.S. In Canada, the company has three centres—Pulse Creek Surgical Centre in Vancouver, Magdalen Surgical Centre in Winnipeg, and Westmount Square Surgical Centre in Montreal. For treatment in the U.S., Timely Medical sends patients to clinics that are within two hours' drive of the U.S. border.

PRICES

Partial knee replacement: C\$14,000-\$16,000
Discectomy (spinal surgery for ruptured disc): C\$15,000
Gallbladder removal: C\$6,500
Hernia repair: C\$1,000-\$2,000
Cataract surgery: C\$2,000
MRI with high resolution: C\$750
CT scan: C\$175
Total knee replacement: C\$14,000
Shoulder replacement surgery: U\$80,000
Total hip replacement: U\$119,000
Removal of kidney stones: U\$84,500
Tissue biopsy: U\$41,000
Tissue biopsy and/or U\$83,000

Prices are in Canadian dollars when the operation is done in Canada and in U.S. dollars when the operation is done in the United States. Prices include hotel for an accompanying family member for up to four nights. Prices do not include travelling costs.



TIMELY MEDICAL has partners in the U.S.

Another company, MedikaSolutions, sends patients further afield. It has relationships with hospitals in Ahmedabad, Istanbul, and three facilities in Paris. Prices vary according to the destination. Sample procedure and/or surgery to the Krishna Heart & Super Specialty Institute in Ahmedabad.

Partial knee replacement: U\$86,100
Total knee replacement: U\$86,735
Coronary angioplasty (opening clogged arteries): U\$81,700
Total hip replacement: U\$85,800
HIP resurfacing: U\$88,500
Gastroscopy: U\$163,100

These prices do not include travel costs, visa and passport fees, or medical treatment for unexpected ailments occurring prior to the surgery.



CATARACTS

Alternatives to going blind

Cataracts are the gradual clouding of the eye's natural lens—an aging process that affects at least 50 per cent of the population born in the age of 50. Left untreated, cataracts cause blurry vision or even total blindness. Cataract clinics are one of the places at which the public system is colliding with patient needs and market forces. Many people, especially in provinces like Newfoundland, Saskatchewan, P.E.I., Nova Scotia, and Ontario, which have long wait lists, have found they don't particularly like putting their lives on hold for months for such a simple surgery. They'll be happy to jump the queue even if it means paying.

To meet the demand, private cataract clinics are proliferating across the country. Montreal-based Cataract MD plans to open an Ontario office this summer, and then another one in Vancouver in the fall. The company says it will throw in corrective laser eye surgery for free with cataract surgery.

CATARACT PROCEDURE: The damaged lens is replaced with an artificial one. The operation takes around 10 minutes for one eye and requires just a minor anaesthetic. **PUBLIC WAIT:** Median wait is 14 weeks from GP to surgery in Ontario, and 16-8 weeks from GP to surgery nationally.

PRIVATE WAIT: One week.
PRICES: \$1,500-\$1,800 per eye depending on the type of lens requested.



TECHNIQUE

Better screening, newest drugs

Should you develop cancer, where you live will help determine your chances of survival. British Columbia and Alberta have better survival rates for many types of cancers than Ontario residents. This isn't a coincidence, or the quality of the attention or, if it's a matter of money, and which province pays for what, says Bill Hyman, an oncologist and chairman of the Cancer Advocacy Coalition of Canada.

The governments of Alberta and British Columbia give more money per capita to cancer care than does Ontario, so patients in those provinces have better access to drugs and cutting-edge treatments. Patients who want to improve their chances have number of options. Among them: PET

(positron emission tomography) scans, which are difficult to come in many provinces. This scan is a valuable tool in fighting cancer, says Dr. Jean-Luc Urbain, who specializes in nuclear medicine at St. Joseph's Health Care in London, Ont. Unlike the more commonly used CT (computed tomography) scan, the PET scans pinpoint an anomalous level where the cancer has spread in the body. This means it can detect cancers CT scans would miss. It can also help stage the disease, so patients know whether the cancer has metastasized, and can choose the right form of treatment. (See private PET scan section, page 4.)

It's really important that patients find out everything they can about their disease, says Dr. Jeffrey Brack, who runs a medical consulting firm, Medisys (page 48). He says patients should do their own research to cause Canadian oncologists don't always explain all the options. "In Canada, oncologists have adopted their own according to the severity of resources," says Brack. "Often the specialty is, Oh, we can't wait that long, it's very expensive, it's off-limits. Let's see if we can't but saving the later means the cancer has spread."

For example, Alberta is a first-line, or first-



Unexpected illness

Unexpected illness

When it comes to health, most of us believe we're fully covered.



CLARICA



Sun Life Financial

Critical Illness Insurance Long Term Care Insurance Personal Health Insurance

Contact your Sun Life advisor or to find a Sun Life advisor visit www.sunlife.com or call 1-888-844-5443

These products are issued by Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada.

nal drug therapy for advanced colorectal cancer in the United States. It works by stopping the growth of new blood vessels, which starves the tumours and prevents them from growing. Because it works so well, it is also being tested for advanced lung, pancreatic, ovarian and breast cancer. In Canada, the drug was approved by Health Canada for colorectal cancer last September, although only in U.S. and Mexican hospitals are funding it. "Avastin is a blockbuster drug," Heynck says. "It prolongs the lives of patients with advanced colorectal cancer, which is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Canada."

The story is the same for many of the latest cancer drugs available in the United States. Even when a drug is given the go ahead by Health Canada, it can take several years before a province decides to fund it. Certain drugs, such as Zovirax for Herpes Simplex (yeast) and Imatinib for lung cancer, that have a proven record of success, are often available in British Columbia but are difficult to access in other parts of the country, Heynck says. Heynck practiced oncology in B.C. for two decades and in the United States for 10 years before returning to Canada, to settle in Dundas, Ont. He believes the Canadian system is aimed at bureaucracy, making it hard for Canadian oncologists to provide the best treatment for their patients. "There is no mutual cancer program in Canada. Not in there any co-operation or sharing of information between the provinces," Heynck says. "No although the quality of care people receive in B.C. is very good compared to the United States, in the rest of the country it lags several years behind."

These discrepancies have created a market for private health care providers, who offer the following options:



PROVIDES offers expensive cancer drugs



CUTTING-EDGE PET scans are the gold standard in cancer diagnostic service

1. Private Infusion Clinic

This Toronto clinic lets patients buy cancer drugs either not covered by their provincial health plan, or not covered for their specific type of cancer. On-site oncology nurses and doctors oversee treatments. Patients must be referred by their oncologist or a hematologist. Currently the clinic offers Alluvia, Avastin, Gemzar, Herceptin, Velcade and Taxol. The price of these drugs is about half what Canadian patients would pay in the United States, says Graham Vincent, the clinic's chief operating officer.

SAMPLE MEDICATIONS (OFFER PRICES)
Colorectal cancer (Avastin) \$4,000 to \$6,700 per month. Patients receive two treatments a month.

Multiple myeloma (Velcade) \$14,000 for one cycle, which is four treatments. Patients receive one cycle every two weeks.

Payment must be made in full prior to each cycle of treatment.

2. Ultrasound treatment for prostate cancer

The most cutting-edge treatment for prostate cancer is the high-frequency focused ultrasound, often abbreviated to HIFU. With the patient under anesthesia, a rectal probe fires highly focused ultrasound waves at the prostate, burning off cancerous tissue without damaging surrounding organs. The operation takes less than three hours—compared to weeks of radiation—and isn't the risk of incontinence and impotence from a radical prostatectomy. Currently, there are two optional HIFUs in Canada, both privately operated: one in Windsor, Ont., and the other in Toronto.

Dwa Mills Surgical Unit, Toronto

PRICE: \$21,000
HIFU is not available in the public system, although it has been approved for use by Health Canada.
MAXIMUM WAIT: Two weeks.

International Prostate Centre, Windsor, Ont.

PRICE: \$12,000
MAXIMUM WAIT: Three weeks.

3. Treatment in the U.S.

There are a number of businesses in Canada that facilitate travel to the United States for cancer care. M.D. Anderson has an information office in Toronto to coordinate medical treatment at its Houston hospital (page 46). Some exclusive health centers, such as MedSpa and MedSpa Clinic, offer medical consulting services and will facilitate care in the U.S. if necessary. Medical travel agencies (page 42) also provide this service.

PRICE: The pricing structure varies widely depending on the provider. Some companies, such as MedSpa, charge a flat fee. Others bundle the service as part of a large health package.

4. U.S. treatment in Canada

Patients who wish to explore the U.S. options can arrange an appointment with a U.S. oncologist through the medical consulting firm MedSpa (page 46). After that appointment, if a patient prefers to be treated in Canada, the U.S. doctor will complete a treatment plan to be followed once he or she is back in the country. "We

DIABETES doesn't mean giving up all the foods you love

But it does mean having to pay attention to how food choices affect your blood glucose. Testing blood glucose before and after meals is a great way to learn what's working for you. It helps you see if your glucose levels are too high on a regular basis—so you can work with your healthcare professional to adjust your eating habits (portion sizes, types of foods, etc.) to help you stay in range.



Discover that staying in range doesn't have to be boring

- Start by lowering your carbohydrate (carbs) and understanding how much you should eat.
- Carbs are the starches and sugars in food such as grains and fruit. Your body uses carbs for energy, but they raise your blood glucose higher and faster than any other kind of food.
- To keep your blood glucose from going too high it's important to find the right balance of carbs for you.

Did You Know?

Testing around some meals can help you see the impact of food and portion choices on your overall blood glucose control.

Target blood glucose levels as recommended by the Canadian Diabetes Association*

	BEFORE MEAL	2 HOURS AFTER MEAL
Targets for most people with diabetes	4.0 - 7.0 mmol/L	5.0 - 10.0 mmol/L
Normal range (if you're not diabetic)	4.0 - 6.0 mmol/L	5.0 - 8.0 mmol/L

These targets are awarded to be guidelines only. You and your healthcare team should set targets that are specific to you.

- * Testing just before a meal can help you decide what to eat and how much.
- * Testing 2 hours after a meal can help you understand if your meal choice helped keep your blood glucose within your target range.

*Canadian Diabetes Association 2003 Clinical Practice Guidelines

How much should you eat?

Your hands can be very useful in estimating appropriate portions. They're always with you, and they're always the same size! When planning a meal, the Canadian Diabetes Association suggests using these portion sizes as a guide:

- **Grains, starches and fruits:** Choose an amount up to the size of your fist.
- **Meats and alternatives:** Choose an amount the size of the palm of your hand and the thickness of your little finger.
- **Vegetables:** Choose as much as you can hold in both hands. Choose low-carbohydrate fruits, vegetables (e.g. green or yellow beans, broccoli, lettuce).
- **Fat:** Limit fat to about the size of the tip of your thumb.
- **Milk and alternatives:** Drink up to 250 ml (8 oz.) of low-fat milk with a meal.

Adapted from the Canadian Diabetes Association's Just the Basics! Tips for Healthy Eating, Diabetes Prevention and Management Series, August 2005.

With OneTouch® Ultra™, just a 5-second test before and after some meals can help you make better food choices.™

*See www.onetouch.com for more information on OneTouch® Ultra™ and other products. ©2005 OneTouch Medical Limited. All rights reserved. OneTouch is a registered trademark of OneTouch Medical Limited.

Monitoring the effects of your menu choices will put you in charge of what you eat

- How are your results before meals? Are they above or below your target range?
- How much do they rise after a meal?
- Look for patterns. For example, are your results always high after supper but in range after other meals?

Before making any changes in your regimen, talk to your physician or diabetes educator.



ONETOUCH®
changes everything

use world-class institutions," says Dr. Jeffrey Brock, "such as the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston or Sloan Kettering in New York. We average for a second opinion from these places about how cancers should be treated, and we pass on these recommendations to the patient's oncologist in Canada. If the patient needs drugs that are not available in the public system, we can arrange them."

Brock adds, "Of course, in these cases, the patient needs a prescription from their oncologist or treating physician, and the treating physician has to oblige. And for the most part, they're good obliging. Doctors want to help their patients, and we make their job much easier."

PRICE: The cost of an independent second opinion depends on the choice of clinic. The approximate range is from \$1,000 to \$1,700.

PRIVATE PET SCAN: PET scans are considered the gold standard in cancer diagnosis in every G6 country. In Canada, access depends on the province. Quebec and B.C. fund the scans, but in Ontario they are still in clinical trials. There are four private PET scanners in Canada—two in Montreal, one in Vancouver and one in Mississauga, Ont. The two Montreal clinics offer the most up-to-date technology, the PETACT, which combines the PET scan with a CT scan.

SAMPLE PRICES

HEU Marie PET/CT Centre, Montreal
PET/CT scan \$2,900
CT scan \$160

Private Oncology \$500

HEU Marie PET/CT Centre \$2,900

PUBLIC WAIT: Depends on the province. Widely waitlisted in many provinces, including Ontario. **A.E.**



AMERICAN CANCER

Your U.S. options made easy

This spring, the Ohio-based Cleveland Clinic announced it would establish its first Canadian office. Cleveland Clinic Canada is scheduled to open in the heart of Toronto's business district later this summer. The new facility will offer patients "health and wellness consulting" and will also provide information about health care options in its nearby U.S. office.

It is the second American hospital to break into the Canadian market. In September 2000, the world renowned M.D. Anderson Cancer Center opened a Toronto office. Patients may be referred by their oncologist or they can book an appointment themselves. The centre helps patients obtain their medical information and refers them to an M.D. Anderson travel agent, who arranges their trip to the hospital in Houston, Texas.

PRICES

M.D. Anderson

The cost of treatment is decided after a diagnosis has been made. Treatment prices depend on the type of cancer, and range from US\$60,000 to US\$1 million.

Cleveland Clinic Canada

Treatment costs are decided after a diagnosis has been made. They're dedicated to current and pros. **A.E.**



REIMBURSEMENT specialist Barry Stein



HEALTH INDICATORS

Getting medicare to pay the bill

In December 1995, Barry Stein was diagnosed with bilateral cancer. The Montreal lawyer was booked into the operating room three times, but each time, the surgery was cancelled. Stein realized he would most likely die if he continued to wait, and he wrote to the U.S. for private insurance.

The treatments (months of vaccines, angioplasty and chemotherapy) were lengthy and expensive. Stein's medical costs were approximately \$150,000. Since the treatments were not available in Canada, Stein believed the Quebec government should fund the bill. He sent for full reimbursement, and won. Today Stein, now the president of the Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada, receives about five calls a day from patients with questions about health care and government reimbursement. Some are in pain, and want more information about their present options. Many have cancer, and are having problems accessing the drugs they need.

Stein also located to practice in Quebec only to access other lawyers specializing in health policy, patients could call their provincial law society. While they are not lawyers, "patient advocates" do provide in the areas of health policy. The Macdonald directory on page 45 lists patient advocates and health policy lawyers.

PRICES

Lawyers charge \$150-\$250 an hour. Patient advocate charge about \$40 an hour. Payment plans are available. Pre-bonus work is assessed on a case by case basis. **A.E.**



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

What your Denturist needs you to know about:

PARTIAL DENTURES



A significant number of people are missing some of their natural teeth. If you belong to this group and have decided to seek denture treatment, you should know that you can consult your Denturist directly without a referral.

Partial denture treatment is an effective and economical way of restoring proper chewing and a pleasing smile. Partial dentures can be fitted as teeth are lost or removed and can help to preserve the position and function of the remaining natural teeth.

The Importance of Partials

When teeth are lost a space is created which the teeth on either side tend to tip into and fill. The bite then alters when teeth move from their proper position and if left unchecked, this can lead to further tooth loss.

By filling the spaces with partial dentures, remaining teeth are prevented from moving. The dentures provide a surface to bite on restoring the ability to chew properly. Your smile is restored by replacing missing teeth which are colour matched to enhance your natural appearance.

A Variety of Options

There are different types of partial dentures, made with a variety of materials. Partial dentures restore missing teeth by using some natural teeth for hold and support. Combined teeth and gum support provide effective function so that a complete bite is restored even when many teeth are missing. A partial is regarded as an acceptable standard by leading insurers.

What to keep in mind when choosing partial dentures:

- A significant number of people are missing some of their natural teeth.
- Partial denture treatment is an effective and economical way of restoring proper chewing and a pleasing smile.
- Lost teeth leave a space which the teeth on either side tend to tip into and fill. Left unchecked this may lead to further tooth loss.
- Filling spaces with partial dentures prevents the remaining teeth from moving. A partial denture also restores the ability to chew properly and restores your smile.
- Partial dentures restore missing teeth by using some natural teeth for hold and support.

Did you know?

You don't need a referral to visit a Denturist. Denturists must be licensed with the College of Denturists of Ontario in order to practice in Ontario and their Certificates of Registration (Licence) must be prominently displayed in their office.

See your Denturist, the Denture Specialist.

College of Denturists of Ontario • 180 Bloor St. W., Suite 903 • Toronto, ON • M5S 1V6

Phone: 416/925-6331 • Toll-free: 1-888-721-4324 • Fax: 416/ 25-6332

www.denturists-cdo.com • info@denturists-cdo.com



ULTRASOUND treatments for prostate cancer take less than three hours

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW LAWRENCE (2001) PHOTOGRAPH BY LYNNE BUCHANAN



MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

Quick, chemo-free treatment for prostate cancer, p.48; access to the newest cancer drug treatments, p.48; a medical loan from home in 20 minutes, p.49; the latest cardiovascular surgery in India, p.50; blood work at home, p.50; lawyers for reimbursement of private treatment, p.49, 24/7 access to nurses and doctors, p.50; the country's first private emergency clinic, p.48; an appointment with a specialist without the wait, p.52, American clinics in Canada, p.48

COMPILED BY MED FLOYD, DARIN DEERHO, BERNARD KELLY, ALEXANDRA TREMO AND PATRICIA TREHAR

A "private clinic" is defined as one that charges patients for medical services.

None of the services listed in the directory below may be covered by the patient's provincial health plan.

CANCER CARE RET SCANS

BETTER COLUMBIA

1. Vancouver Pelvic Cancer Centre

3830 Westbrook Mall
Vancouver V6S 3L2
604-689-7776
www.pelviccancer.ca

ONTARIO

1. Care Imaging
246 Matheson Blvd. E
Mississauga L4T 0J1
905-761-9500
www.careimaging.com
RET scans

QUEBEC

1. Centre d'Imagerie Médicale Québec
2804 boul. Techno
Greenfield Park J4V 2P8
430-610-6173
www.mecan.com
Services include PET/CT scans, barium enema, virtual colonoscopy, ultrasound bone density, CT scans, MRI scans, orthopedics

CANCER CARE PROSTATE CANCER

ONTARIO

1. Dr. Hersh Surgical Unit
206-20 Wyndford Dr.
Oakville, ON L6H 1A4
416-441-2171
www.dhsa.com
Provides high intensity external beam radiation therapy for prostate cancer

2. International Prostate Centre
5405 Avenue Dr.
Windsor N9W 5B3
519-262-8815
www.internationalprostate.com
Provides high intensity external beam radiation therapy for prostate cancer

3. Prostate Infection Clinic
502-123 Edson St

CANCER CARE PROSTATE CANCER

QUEBEC

1. MediBios
250-750 Marché Lavoie
Saint-Laurent H4M 2M4
514-522-8000
1-877-373-0872
www.mediobios.com
Holds private, across-border and transnational CT scans available in the public system

QUEBEC

1. Marie Marie Medical and Women's Health Centre
1000-1838 Sherbrooke St. W.
Montreal H3G 1L5
514-833-2776
www.marie-marie.com

QUEBEC

1. Marie Marie Medical and Women's Health Centre
1000-1838 Sherbrooke St. W.
Montreal H3G 1L5
514-833-2776
www.marie-marie.com

QUEBEC

1. H.D. Anderson Cancer Center
201-538 University Ave

CANCER CARE PROSTATE CANCER

QUEBEC

1. MediBios
250-750 Marché Lavoie
Saint-Laurent H4M 2M4
514-522-8000
1-877-373-0872
www.mediobios.com
Holds private, across-border and transnational CT scans available in the public system

2. Cleveland Clinic Canada
(No open for clinic)
3000-1838 Bay St.
Toronto M5J 2B3
416-507-8800
Services include: annual prostate physical, PSA screening, lifestyle counselling. Facilitates referrals to U.S. clinics known for expertise in cardiac care, orthopedics and gastroenterology

3. Cleveland Clinic Canada
(No open for clinic)
3000-1838 Bay St.
Toronto M5J 2B3
416-507-8800
Services include: annual prostate physical, PSA screening, lifestyle counselling. Facilitates referrals to U.S. clinics known for expertise in cardiac care, orthopedics and gastroenterology

QUEBEC

1. Clinique Médicale MD-Plus
301-1100 Avenue Ave.
Montreal H3B 2H5
514-750-7827
www.md-plus.ca
Offers private appointments with an oncologist to subscribers, or within one

QUEBEC

1. H.D. Anderson Cancer Center
201-538 University Ave

MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

dry to public. Treats minor emergencies.

THE SURGERY CENTRES

BETTER COLUMBIA

1. Vision Rejuvenation Victoria

101-4450 Chatterton Way
Victoria V8S 5J2
250-383-2645
1-800-544-3244
www.visionrejuvenation.com
Patients pay for refractive enhancement procedures and can have contacts removed during the same procedure. Limbal relaxing incision, conductive keratoplasty LASIK and PRK procedures

2. Dr. Edward Yu

250-4813 Kingsway Ave.
Burnaby V5H 4T2
604-433-9391
Cataract surgery

3. Conquest Cataract Centre

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

4. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

5. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

6. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

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604-226-3537
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604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

8. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

www.henryeye.com
Cataract, refractive lens surgery, lens implants, laser

9. T.C. Laser Eye Centre

310 Wellington St. W.
London N6A 1S5
519-432-3230
1-800-225-5852
www.tclaser.com
Robert says for refractive and surgery, surgery bills (CICP for contact lens of surgery)

10. Toronto Eye Surgery Centre

141-1414 Yonge St.
Toronto M5S 1A5
416-545-0345
www.torontoeyesurgery.com
Cataract laser

11. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

12. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

13. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

14. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

15. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

16. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

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Coquitlam V3B 1B8
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Cataract surgery

www.henryeye.com
Cataract, refractive lens surgery, lens implants, laser

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Cataract laser

19. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

20. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

21. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

22. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

23. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

24. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

www.henryeye.com
Cataract, refractive lens surgery, lens implants, laser

25. T.C. Laser Eye Centre

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London N6A 1S5
519-432-3230
1-800-225-5852
www.tclaser.com
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26. Toronto Eye Surgery Centre

141-1414 Yonge St.
Toronto M5S 1A5
416-545-0345
www.torontoeyesurgery.com
Cataract laser

27. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

28. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

29. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

30. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

31. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

32. A. Cataract MD (Dr.)

177-2964 Bannock Way
Coquitlam V3B 1B8
604-226-3537
Cataract surgery

MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

3. Parkway Patient Advocates
 3 Bates Court
 Irvine L4N 8L5
 705-330-1634
www.parkwayadvocate.ca

Assists with pre-approval applications for out-of-province medical procedures and represents patients at appeals for reimbursement for out-of-province care.

MEDICAL CONSULTANTS

NATIONAL SERVICES

1. OneWorld Medicine
 10th Floor, 6081 No. 3 Road
 Richmond, B.C.
 V6V 2E2
 1-800-333-8738
www.oneworldmedicine.com

Researches treatment options available to patients in private and public Canadian hospitals and the United States. Arranges care, travel and accommodation for patients seeking private treatment and diagnostic imaging at private facilities in Canada and the U.S. Helps travellers find appropriate medical help in foreign countries and manages the care.

2. MedExtra
 210-750 Marcel Lussin
 Saint-Laurent, Que.
 H4M 2M4
 514-323-6000
 1-877-373-9072
www.medextra.com

Researches treatment options available to patients in private and public Canadian hospitals and the United States. Manages and coordinates care of patients in public and private systems. Helps expedite access to specialists across Canada.

MEDICAL TRAVEL AGENTS

NATIONAL SERVICES

1. AD HealthCare
 235-5765 Turner Rd.
 Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6M4
www.adhealthcare.com
 Destinations: hospitals
 throughout the world

2. MedHours
 Kelowna, B.C.
 (no mailing address)
 1-866-777-8585
www.medhours.org
 Destinations: hospitals
 in India

3. MedSolutions
 3714 Boundary Rd.
 Burnaby, B.C. V5M 4A2
 1-800-864-0457
www.medsolutions.com
 Destinations: hospitals and clinics in India, France, Poland and Turkey. Will soon provide services in Brazil, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Mexico and South Africa.

4. Reach Health Services
 230-4668 120 A Street
 Surrey, B.C. V3M 3P5
 604-636-7909
 or 604-726-8835
www.reachhealthservices.com
 Destinations: hospitals in India

5. Sun Medical Group
 300-760 Saulty Street
 Vancouver V6S 2M0
 604-521-6072
 1-888-288-0386
www.sunmedical.ca
 Destinations: hospitals and facilities in Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand

6. Surgical Tourism Canada
 420-601 W. Broadway
 Vancouver V5Z 4C2
 604-671-4375
 1-877-677-4375
www.surgicaltourism.com
 Destinations: hospitals in India and Sri Lanka

7. Timely Medical Alternatives
 1275 West 8th Ave. 3rd floor
 Vancouver V6H 1A8
 604-714-4999
 1-866-864-8330
www.timelymedical.ca

Destinations: private clinics in Canada and facilities in the U.S.

8. Health Trips
 1622 Michael St.
 Ottawa K1B 3T7
 613-868-2420
www.healthtrips.com
 Destination: hospital in India

MOBILE HEALTH SERVICES

OUTSIC

1. Mynde Santé
 88 rue Picard
 L'Epiphanie J5K 2R1
 450-548-5327
 1-888-765-7362
www.mysante.com
 Medical lab services home visits: mobile clinic

2. Vaccin Express
 1400 Steeles W.
 Markham R4N 3C5
 914-333-7777
www.vaccinexpress.com
 Vaccinations in clinic or at home/work/schools

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

OUTSIC

1. Action Sport Physio Clinic
 Olympic Stadium, Montreal
 4533 Place de Cochetin,
 Montreal H1V 2M5
 514-259-4553
www.action-sport.com
 Sports medicine, physiotherapy and specialized treatments including orthopaedic surgery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, shockwave therapy, osteopathy, aquatic therapy, dietary consultation.

2. MediClub
 800 Avenue du Belair
 Montreal H2S 2W1
 514-726-9646
www.mediclub.ca
 Partial shoulder arthroplasty replacement, cataract, some general surgery

3. André Péroault
 Clinique de chirurgie de pied de Montréal
 200-2320 rue Fleury est
 Montreal H2B 1K3
 514-367-3471
www.andrepéroault.com

Specializes in lower and upper extremities including finger, toe, hand, foot and ankle

4. Duval Orthopaedic Clinic
 1467 boul. des Laurentides
 Laval H7M 2Y5

450-865-3901
www.duval.ca
 (under construction)
 Only private facility in Canada that performs full hip replacements. Also performs partial knee replacements and hip arthroscopy. Treats ACL and meniscus tears.

6. Westmont Square Surgical Center
 C150-1 Westmont Square
 Westmont H2Z 2P9
 514-931-5500
www.westsurgical.com
 Specializes in shoulder, knee, spine, ACL and meniscus tears. Plastic surgery, hernia repair and weight-loss procedures.

PRIMARY CARE

OUTSIC COLUMBIA

1. Copeman Healthcare Centre
 400-1128 Hornby St.
 Vancouver V6Z 2L4
 604-767-2075
 1-888-822-2733
www.copemanhealth.ca
 Private family medicine, with expertise in the areas of: oncology, oncology, urology, gynaecology, orthopaedics, sports, neurology, pain management, osteoporosis and women's health. Provides comprehensive wellness services including lifestyle coaching and exercise physiology.

ONTARIO

1. Genesis Professional Group
 450-6000 Steeles Ave. W.
 Concord L4K 4M2
 905-760-1415
www.genesisgroup.com
 Private family medicine, with physicians available for immediate appointments and 24/7 by phone. Provides telemedicine within medical system. One-year membership includes three-hour wellness assessment, customized health plan and one-hour follow-up. Additional fee-for-service wellness consultations available.

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Midland, ON:	(705) 527-0940	Ottawa (West), ON:	(613) 288-0295
Barns, ON:	(705) 737-1991	Ottawa (East), ON:	(613) 218-2232
St. Catharines, ON:	(905) 684-0100	Saint John, NB:	(506) 658-1978
Fort Erie, ON:	(905) 871-4242	Sussex, NB:	(506) 432-4769
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HEALTH MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

OUTPATIENT

14 physicians have opted out of the provincial health insurance plan in Quebec. 40 are family doctors and 52 are specialists. An extensive guide to the many private doctors and family doctors in and around Montreal is available at: www.santetout.ca/fr/montr%C3%A9al/montr%C3%A9al.html

1. Clinique médicale MD-Plus

Real Laanen Medical Centre
321-1520 Boulevard Ave
Montreal H3P 3A5
514-736-7587
www.md-plus.ca
Private family medicine, coordinated with physio and radiology clinic through which MRI, CT and ultrasound can be accessed

2. Centre Multi-Medic

320 Chemin du Golf
Montreal H3E 1A6
514-760-4717
www.multi-medic.com
Private family medicine with expertise in sports medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, endocrinology, general surgery, ENT, ophthalmology, urology

3. MediClub

6700 Avenue du Soleil,
Montreal H3S 2W1
514-736-5846
www.mediclub.ca
Support services to family medicine practice available on private basis including lab work (mobile blood tests), ultrasound, cardiac ultrasound, blood pressure monitoring, BCG, vaccination

RADIOLOGY

Includes MRI and CT scans

ALBERTA

1. Canada Diagnostic Centres

1-6020 1A Street SW
Calgary T2H 0Z3
403-253-4666
403-253-4666
1-800-567-4021
www.canadiadiagnostic.ca
MRI, CT

2. Insight Medical Imaging

200 Meadowlark Health Centre
160 St. St. Ave.
Edmonton T5R 5W5
780-444-5852
www.insightmedical.ca
MRI, CT

3. Mayfield Diagnostics

120 Mayfield Place
6707 Elbow Dr SW
Calgary T2H 0S3
403-777-4024
1-866-777-1570
www.mayfielddiagnostics.com
MRI, CT

4. Medical Imaging Consultants

7th and 8th Floor, 6216 102 St.
Edmonton T6C 2C8
780-432-1211
www.micbc.ca
MRI, mammography, nuclear medicine, bone density, ultra sound, X-ray, fluoroscopy

BRITISH COLUMBIA

1. Canada Diagnostic Centres

150-555 West 12th Ave
Vancouver V6Z 3R7
604-709-8322
1-877-766-8322
www.canadiadiagnostic.com
MRI, CT

2. Canadian HealthScan

201-2087 McMillan Rd
Abbotsford V3S 3N6
604-856-7226
1-866-556-7226
www.canadiadiagnostic.ca
CT

3. Corvus Valley MRI

1251 Ryan Rd
Cambridge V9N 3A6
250-334-9023
www.corvusvalley.ca
MRI

4. Fraser Valley MRI Clinic

5-251 McCarroll Rd
Abbotsford V2S 3N6
604-886-1707
1-888-789-6674
www.fraservalleymri.com
MRI

5. Image One MRI Clinic

121-3220 Hudson St
Kelowna V1Y 4V5
250-860-4848
1-866-256-4848
www.imageonemri.ca
MRI

6. Okanagan Health MRI Clinic

305-3320 Richter St
Kelowna V1W 4V5
250-860-3100
1-877-880-3100
www.okanaganhealthmri.ca
MRI

7. Specialty MRI Clinics

100-1500 West 8th Ave
Vancouver V6H 4A8
604-734-4842
1-866-734-4842
www.specialtyMRI.com
MRI

8. CHL Healthcare

125-3887 Hunting Dr
Burnaby B.C. V5C 6A5
604-273-3787
1-877-325-6787
www.chlhealthcare.com
MRI

9. CHL Healthcare

301-880 Fort St
Victoria V8R 5V4
250-558-0703
www.chlhealthcare.com
MRI

MANITOWA

1. Peoples Surgical Centre

7-1201 Jefferson Ave
Winnipeg R2P 1A2
204-633-1108
www.nelsonsurgery.com
Services include MRI, computerized, general and plastic surgery

NEW SCOTIA

1. Canadian Diagnostic Centres

902A-258 Lacrimwood Dr
Halifax B3H 4G2
902-443-9922
204-334-9023
www.canadiadiagnostic.ca
MRI, bone density scan

QUEBEC

1. Centre d'imagerie Médicale Bénédictin

2044 boul. Taschereau
Greenfield Park J4V 2G3
514-671-6773
www.benedictin.ca
MRI, CT, ultrasound

2. Centre de radiologie West Island

380-170 chemin Ste-View
Pointe Claire H9R 1A3
514-887-9840
www.westislandmri.com
MRI, CT, ultrasound

3. Centre d'imagerie RM Clerie

5885 chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges
Montreal H3S 2T2
514-739-1444
Mammogram, general X-ray
MRI, ultrasound

5. IBM Quebec

100-1500 Ave. Malbec
Quebec G1J 5B9
418-587-0080
www.ibmquebec.com
MRI, CT X-ray, ultrasound, nuclear medicine

6. Liger et associé radiologistes

1851 rue Sherbrooke est
Montreal H2K 4L5
514-523-2127
www.ligeretassocie.ca
MRI, ultrasound

7. Mediris CT Scan & Nuclear Imaging

12th floor
300 Sherbrooke St. W
Montreal H3A 3C6
514-489-2772
1-800-235-0220
www.mediris.ca
CT scans, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, X-rays

8. Medias MRI Scan Centre

5811 chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges
Montreal H3S 1Z2
514-341-8255
www.medias.ca
MRI

9. MEDICAL

Radiologie Etendelle
200-5950 Côte-des-Neiges
Montreal H3S 1Z4
514-736-8168
Radiologie St-Siméon
1-844-561-51-51
Montreal H3P 2H1
514-357-8725
www.radiologieetendelle.com
Mammography, bone density scan, general X-ray, CT, ultrasound

10. Ottawa Valley MRI Centre

15 rue Papineau
Hull J1K 1T4
819-420-0130
1-888-223-5771
www.ottavavalleymri.com
MRI



*If you're
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with cancer,
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you'll survive it.
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More women are surviving cancer than ever before.

Thanks to advances in cancer research and treatment options, women now have a fighting chance to beat this disease. The earlier cancer is caught, the better your chances of survival.

Here are some signs and symptoms of some of the most common types of female-specific cancers:

- **Breast Cancer** – Any change in the outline or shape of your breasts, discomfort or unusual pain in one breast, a small lump in the breast or armpit, a simple, dense or puckering of the skin.
- **Cervical Cancer** – Abnormal or irregular bleeding, unusual vaginal discharge, discomfort or pain during sex or bleeding afterwards, persistent lower back pain.
- **Ovarian Cancer** – Pain in the abdomen, digestive problems, weight loss, frequent need to pass water, unusual bleeding from the vagina, changes in bowel habits, rashes, constant tiredness.
- **Uterine Cancer** – Abnormal vaginal bleeding, pain or pressure in the abdomen, back or legs, change in bowel habits, weight loss, difficult or painful urination, bleeding after intercourse.

STAR ALERT – The best way to protect yourself is to be aware of the signs and to visit your doctor for regular checkups, or as soon as you notice anything unusual.

Sources: 1. Canadian Cancer Society, www.ccsr.ca 2. Cancer Research, U.K. 2005

But surviving cancer can be expensive. Provincial and work plans cover some medical expenses, but not all of them. And the last thing you want to do is dip into your RRSPs or savings.

For more information on how to get CASH to meet Cancer Expenses, call 1-800-587-4817 and ask for offer #2237.

Exclusive offer for women 18-55



YES. Please call my FREE no-obligation Information Kit to me

Call toll-free 1-800-587-4817 and ask for offer #2237 or complete the following information:

My Wife, Mrs. (Please include) First Name Last Name
Address Street Apt.
City Province Postal Code
Telephone Number () - () - () - () - ()
E-mail Address (optional)
Date of Birth () / () / ()

The non-employment policy will not be underwritten by AIG Insurance Co. of Canada. If you wish to obtain a Life Insurance Policy of Canada, please contact AIG Insurance Co. of Canada. The non-employment policy will be underwritten by AIG Insurance Co. of Canada. If you wish to obtain a Life Insurance Policy of Canada, please contact AIG Insurance Co. of Canada. The non-employment policy will be underwritten by AIG Insurance Co. of Canada. If you wish to obtain a Life Insurance Policy of Canada, please contact AIG Insurance Co. of Canada.



Created by a woman. For women.

Well Woman is a breakthrough insurance product exclusively for women that gives you cash to use however you want.

- **Receive CASH benefits** – If you are ever diagnosed with cancer of the breasts, fallopian tubes, cervix, ovaries, uterus, vagina or vulva, Well Woman will pay cash directly to you.
- **Use the CASH however you want** – whether it's to cover out of country treatment, mortgage payments, make up for lost income, or even a holiday to help you get your strength back, it's your choice.
- **Guaranteed acceptance** – even if you have a family history of cancer, as long as you can sign a declaration of health.
- **Patient Care Assistance Program** – This built-in service provides valuable medical advice and assistance for you and your family so that you receive access to the best possible medical care.
- **Try Well Woman risk-free for 30 days** – Your coverage starts as soon as we receive your completed Enrollment Form. If you decide that Well Woman is not right for you, simply notify us in writing within 30 days.

IMAGINE an insurance policy that pays you cash if you are ever diagnosed with cancer AND, if you remain healthy, pays you back EVERY penny you have paid in.

Well Woman Return of Premium Benefit.
It's *Win-Win* for you!

If you never make a claim, we will return to you all of the premiums you have paid when you surrender the policy any time after 20 years, or when you reach age 70, whichever comes first.

Well Woman Benefits Up to \$50,000 in total coverage

- 1. Diagnosis Benefit** – CASH paid to you immediately upon diagnosis of a covered female cancer
- 2. Monthly Income Benefit** – MONTHLY CASH paid to you upon diagnosis of a covered female cancer
- 3. Hospital Cash Benefit** – DAILY CASH paid to you for every day you spend in the hospital within 2 years of diagnosis
- 4. Surgery Benefit** – CASH paid to you in the event of surgery related to the diagnosed cancer within 2 years of diagnosis

Well Woman is available to women between the ages of 18 and 55. Coverage terminates at age 70. Available to residents of Canada only, excluding Quebec and New Brunswick. One policy per person.

For more information, please call our toll-free hotline:
1-800-567-4817
Ask for ext #2237
(Weekdays 9 am to 5 pm)

A woman will be there to answer your questions.



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HEALTH

MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

11. Radiologie Lachine
104-700 rue St-Joseph
Vieux-Port-Lachine H3P 3H5
514-738-6606
MRI, CT, ultrasound

12. Radiologie Montérégie
240-800 Place Charles-Lois
Lamontville J4C 2T4
450-621-0808
1-877-634-0909
www.radiologie-montregie.com
MRI, CT, ultrasound

13. Radio-Concorde / Réso-Carefour
900-9030 boul. St-Jacques
Laval H7T 2P5
450-668-7376
1-866-688-7376
MRI, CT, ultrasound

14. Tono-Concorde
500 boul. de la Concorde est
Pointe-Ville H7S 3T5
450-623-8666
1-800-987-8866
MRI, CT, ultrasound

15. Westmount Square Medical Imaging
220-1 Westmount Square
Montreal H3Z 2P6
514-989-9764
www.radiologiemontreal.com
Mammography, bone density
scan, MRI, CT, ultrasound

16. Ville Marie Medical and Health Centre
1000-1328 Sherbrooke St. W
Montreal H3G 1L5
514-859-7778
www.villemarie.com
Mammography, ultrasound
infrared imaging, cardiovascular

17. Vieux-Port Medical
2555 Vieux-Port Ave.
Montreal H3P 1S0
514-859-2087
www.vieuxportmedical.com
Services include: orthopedics, ophthalmology, plastics, urology, gynecology

18. Vieux-Port Medical
2555 Vieux-Port Ave.
Montreal H3P 1S0
514-859-2087
www.vieuxportmedical.com
Services include: orthopedics, ophthalmology, plastics, urology, gynecology

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www.vieuxportmedical.com
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1-800-515-4756
www.vieuxportmedical.com
Offers private consultations and rapid access to specialists in Quebec and British Columbia. Provides information on which specialists have the shortest wait list for surgery.

SURGICAL CLINICS

WESTERN ONTARIO

1. Ambulatory Surgical Centre
200-701 Sefton Terrace
Kitchener V2C 6C7
250-354-0076
1-877-314-5089
www.ambisurgery.com
Services include: orthopedics, neurosurgery, general surgery, gynecology, urology, ophthalmology, sinus surgery, pain management

2. Chuking Health Surgical Centre
401-3320 Richter St
Kitchener N2H 4V5
250-462-8788
1-877-462-4763
www.chukinghealth.com
Services include: orthopedics, plastics, urology, sinus, vascular, ophthalmology

3. Concorde Surgery Centre
2836 Ash St
Vancouver V5Z 3C6
604-674-1349
1-800-958-1338
www.concorde-surgery.com
Services include: orthopedics, vascular surgery, same surgery ophthalmology, neurosurgery, gynecology, general surgery, ENT, plastics, urology

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'IT MAKES FOR A LONG DAY WHEN YOU HAVE TO BE UP AT 7:30 A.M., HAVE YOUR BREAKFAST, PACK EVERYTHING UP AND GO FOR EIGHT HOURS.' —RINCE ALBERT, DURING HIS NORTH POLE EXPEDITION

PRINCE ALBERT A PRETTY GOOD TASTE OF THE HARD LIFE

Prince Albert II of Monaco demonstrated royalty's resilience of roughing it during his recent North Pole expedition. His former Highness—who says the 120-kilo trek was to commemorate his great-grandfather (who traveled here in 1906) and raise awareness of global warming—few getaway-as-business guys. Boating, as well as tennis, Nike and Sony, sponsored the team, which included a doctor and a chef. The Prince's website lists the dangers: "In an ice, drifting ice, and polar bears. It also features a clip of the 4th-year-old enjoying one of two hot gourmet meals a day, saying "It makes for a long day when you have to be up at 7:30, have your breakfast, pack everything up, and go for eight hours." How bourgeois.



TOM MORAGHAN WILL THE RESTAURANTS ONLY SERVE PIZZA?

Former pizza tycoon Tom Moraghan has injected US\$400 million of his own money to build the town of his dreams—a Catholic community on the southeast Florida coast, where churchgoers can, Ave Maria (originally named for Moraghan's housewife of Michigan before zoning left thought) will be nestled on the great medieval dunes of Tampa. The town, which will be built around the famous Cathedral University in the U.S. in 40 years, is scheduled to be ready by the fall of 2007. Moraghan, the founder of Domino's Pizza, had suggested that stores be banned from selling alcoholic beverages and pornography in his sunny, sunny, conservative paradise. But after some negative publicity, those intentions fell into guidelines, and people from all religions are now welcome: bars, shops and strip clubs, not surprisingly, will be prohibited.

DANIEL ORTEGA HOPING TO RIDE THE LEFTIST WAVE

Nicaragua didn't go to the polls until November, but the U.S. is already trying to ensure that president from reformer Daniel Ortega won't be re-elected. As president from 1985 to 1990, the San José leader was a known Cuban and Soviet bloc sympathizer who fought off the U.S.-backed Contras before losing to Violeta Chamorro, who ran an anti-Soviet campaign. Ortega ran against 2002, but his opponent, president Enrique Bolaños, now, with a wave of leftist sentiment sweeping Latin America, Ortega's political rivalism has sparked fear in the White House. Under the guise of ensuring "free and fair presidential elections," the U.S. State Department released a statement last week urging the Nicaraguans to continue to reject the discredited figures of the country's political past—namely Ortega. But U.S. involvement could turn the tide for the Sandinistas in the wake of the State Department's advocacy. Ortega experienced a surge in popularity



BERND FISCHER THE PRINCE OF VW HOPES TO GO TO POWER

For some time, Germans have been troubled by the high drama at Volkswagen. Given the level of integration and lighting within its walls, the automaker's Wolfsburg headquarters has assumed to be rather Elton John Castle. But qualms. At the center of the struggle is Bernd Fischer, the company's chief executive officer, who has been fighting to hold on to his job while overseeing a company that has fallen on hard times. And then there's Ferdinand Piëch, the chairman of the company's powerful supervisory board and heir to the Porsche sports car dynasty, who has flip-flopped in his support of Fischer. Last week, he announced that Fischer would likely get a contract extension. But with a battle with the powerful union, which is opposed to Fischer's aggressive cost-cutting plans, and the VW saga is more concerning than anything on TV.

HAN NYEONG-SOOK GETTING RAILROADED INTO OFFICE

When South Korean Prime Minister Lee Hae-chang agreed to spend a day golfing instead of dealing with a massive railway strike, he triggered a process that led to the country's first female PM. Last week, Han Nyeong-sook, 65, replaced the disgraced Lee. And though she has a reputation for being "gracie," she did serve a two-year jail term for activism against the dictatorship of Park Chung-hee. Many hope that Han's talent for negotiation will smooth relations between parties, including her own: the governing U.S. Party-Chung Dong Young, U.S. party chairman, says that Han "has given hope to our daughters and light to our women. Now that you've become prime minister, it's time you give hope and light to our men."



ROBY O'CONNOR THE MAPLE LEAF'S LONG SHADOW

In Doozie, France, there's a disjuncted monument to Ontario's former Scottish representative head by oak spray, poetic postcard. But this August, a new monument will appear on the beach for the World's most famous dog. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had 19-year-old daughter Roby O'Connor to come up with a design. "I knew nothing about the beach," she says. "My grandfather was in the war, but he never talked about it. So I read the library and found a soldier's account that inspired me." The University of Windsor fine arts student produced a monolithic granite design, with the regiments badge, dog and a person code name (Red Beach), and a special touch—an eagle with a shield, which will be a shadow on the ground when the light hits it at 1942 (the first of the battle ended). Says Roby: "It gives me goosebumps."

PILATE ROME MUSICALS LIKE FEWER ROOMMATES

While touring Australia last year with his Toronto band, singer Todd Clark found himself getting no sleep. "I went to boarding school in New Zealand so we like the rooming life out," he says. "But the hotel was stayed in on their own five-star hotels by comparison. Sleeping in a room with five guys isn't nearly as bad as one with 60." Now back in Toronto before heading on across Canada for this summer, Pilate is releasing an sophomore CD, *Self Control For Life's Sake*, this week, and ironing out the final details of a U.S. distribution deal. "According to the CD in Vancouver helped us get away from all the distractions at home," says Clark. "Nobody was saying they had to go because they promised themselves they'd be home for dinner."

ELLEN PAGE A TEENAGER WITH A HEART OF DARKNESS

"It's not something to be enjoyed," says the 16-year-old actress Ellen Page, of *Mind Candy*. "It's something to experience." The new film (which includes fellow Canadian actor Jake Gyllenhaal) is the most role of Harper Clark (Page) who appears to be bored to the bone of an older man's obsession with her. "I mean on the Web before transforming into a teenage Lulu bent on avenging the pain he's caused others. 'Symbolically, it's beautiful,'" says Page, 19. "Not that I'm advocating rape, of course." Page, who considers the film empowering, is frustrated by the killing. "Kids will think it's wrong," says Page, who will appear in *Mean Girls* this summer. "It's just annoying, because to me it's not 'I have to buy tickets to see it.'"



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His deadpan turn as clue-out cop Frank Drebin made the Naked Gun movies. And his first comedic film, *Airplane!*, still defines the spoof genre today. But is Leslie Nielsen actually funny?

You think I'm joking?



A REAL STRAIGHT MAN For decades, Nielsen was a hard-working actor in serious roles

film

BY ANDREW WEISSMAN • Is Leslie Nielsen funny?

The creators of the TV Western *Gunsmoke* from certainly think that the veteran Canadian actor, who turned to this past February, deserves his prominence as a comedy actor. Gary Harvey and Scott Nielsen (no relation) will add Leslie Nielsen to the cast of their show when it returns for a second season this fall. Asked whether he is funny, they say (via email) "Anyone who says 'no' to this question is an idiot!"

If so, the idiot includes a critic for the *Los Angeles Times* magazine *Film Focus*, who saw Nielsen in *Gunsmoke* IV and wrote: "The wackiness of it's not now time for the old folk to turn." Or film critic Maryanne Johnson of *www.filmthoughts.com*, who says of Nielsen: "He never has been funny." Or *Weekend Update* host Tina Turner, who once said: "He never was funny." Or *Weekend Update* host Tina Turner, who once said: "He never was funny." Or *Weekend Update* host Tina Turner, who once said: "He never was funny."

Whether you settle down on the question of Leslie Nielsen's comic talents, use them in a context. Nielsen was the last person anyone expected to become a comedy star. For decades, he was a hard-working actor who appeared in feature films and hundreds of television episodes, most of them without a comedic element. There were some unintentionally funny moments, as in the so-called *Forbidden Planet*, when Nielsen (playing the cosmic lead) told the scientist-clad Anne Francis: "I've a command of 15 comparatively selected super-fir physical spacemen with an average age of 25.6 who have been locked up in hyperspace for 178 days!" But he also played such roles as though there was nothing absurd about them. Like his Canadian contemporary, William Shatner, Nielsen cut several comedy series, but his only real comedy delivery. It was a common sight in the '50s, when Nielsen starred making a name for himself in movies. And his *Shatners*, he started to seem a bit of a joke. In the 1970s he *The Poseidon Adventure*

ture, Nielsen's performance in the captain's role in *Revenge of the Creature*. But the style wasn't out of fashion with writer-director David Zucker, Jerry Zucker and Jim Abrahams, who were making a movie called *Airplane!* They wanted Nielsen, not in spite of his serious delivery of silly lines, but because of it.

Zucker, Zucker, and Abrahams wanted to parody the solemn, straight-faced movies and TV shows they'd grown up watching. They deliberately filled the movie with people from these films and shows, including, doubly so, the *Gunsmoke* star Robert Stack, Peter Graves, Lloyd Bridges—and Leslie Nielsen. On the DVD commentary for *Airplane!*, the directors recall that their casting director scolded at the choice of Nielsen to play a key role. "Leslie Nielsen's the guy you have the day before your death!" But that was the whole point for a spoof of B-movie movies, they needed a B-level star.

Maryanne Johnson explains that the directors used Nielsen to make the same way that Margaret Dumont appeared in the movies of the Marx Brothers: "The drooping, oblique square in the middle of a lot of comic faces." *Airplane!* made Nielsen a sensation. And after that, anyone who occasionally looked at him were in the film, Nielsen would like, he really was an "It" man. When he signed in the '70s, "You're not be serious!" with "I am serious, and don't call me Shirley," he didn't seem to get the joke. And that in itself was the joke.

The movie makers were so pleased with Nielsen that they gave him the star role in their TV series *Police Squad!*, a mad-up of self-important '70s cop shows. As the wisecracking detective Frank Drebin, Nielsen was the perfect embodiment of the wooden, transaction TV cop. He was so mild and self that even the other characters seemed puzzled by his inability to see that crazy things were happening. *Police Squad!* only lasted six episodes, but fans knew where it was headed—especially the way Nielsen would freeze in place at the end of episodes, in a kind of TV freeze-frame—that it eventually inspired a series of *Barney* films.

The way Johnson sees it, Nielsen was funny in those projects not because of anything funny he did, but because of how he



SEX TIPS FROM KHOMEINI: The Ayatollah's 'Blue Book' offered advice on romantic matters. In the aftermath of following a visit

Celebrate tolerance, or you're dead

Oriana Fallaci writes magnificent screeds, hoping Europe will save itself. Good luck.

BY MARK STEIN

Over in Sweden, they've been investigating the Grand Master of Swedish Golf, apparently, at the main shopping for golfers in Stockholm, you can buy some concrete as its unique characteristic is that it comes in many sizes and shapes, it's the brother of Play-Doh, and it's called "Joles." So somebody filed a lawsuit against the company and the support started looking into it, and then Sweden's Golf Federation, Gösta Linderberg stepped in. And Mr. Linderberg, who's been involved in the investigation on the grounds that, even though the person didn't staff it "highly demanding," that kind of club staff is not judged differently—and it therefore he regarded as permissible—because they were used by one side in an ongoing and far-reaching campaign where clubs in arms and ready are part of the everyday disease in the rhetoric that surrounds this conflict.

In other words, if you threaten to kill people often enough, it will be seen as part of your ethnic cultural tradition—and, by definition, we'll all cool with that. Celebrate diversity, etc. Our tolerant multicultural society is so tolerant and multicultural we'll tolerate your intolerant unilateralism. Your antipathy to diversity is just another form of diversity for us to celebrate.

Diversity-wise, Europe is a very curious place—and I mean that even by Canadian standards. In her latest book, *The Name of Rose*, the fearless Emma Fallaci, Italy's most read and most read journalist, recounts some of her recent legal difficulties with the Continental diversity concerns. The Federal Office of Justice in Rome asked the Italian

government to consider her over her last will, *The Ring and The Prodigy*, she could not be charged under Article 361 of the Swiss Criminal Code. As the ports exit, Article 260b was promulgated in order to punish Muslims "in any way ideologically or politically motivated by excluding religious and racial discrimination. The didn't change because I'm a thief just because I'm a Muslim." She's also been listed in France, where anti-semitic writers are getting away with their hate, and because of the European Arrest Warrant, which includes charges of "antisemitism" as grounds for extradition from one EU nation to another, most of the Continent is now on safe harbor to set foot in. What's impetuous in the range of aggrieved apostates: the *Muslim Council of Britain*, the *Synodal Association of Geneva*, the *SCS Rectors of Lausanne*, and a group of Muslim immigrants in Neuchâtel, just to name a random sampling of their Swiss plaintiffs. After the London bombings and the French riots, the communitarianism led to the prospect that European Muslims are now known to "sodomize". But, in fact, at least in the measure of legislation and victimology, they

superbly minimized. One might say the sum of the errors who took any chance at *The First on Second* to the Alberta Human Rights Commission over their publication of the Danish cartoons.

Radiated by cancer, Ottoma Faldut spends most of her time in one of the few juridical dunes in the Western world where it is still illegal properly—New York City, where the poem magnificent spreads in the hope of housing Europe to save itself. Good luck with that. She writes in Italian, of course, but she translates them herself into what she calls "the oddities of Faldut's English," and the result is a bravura improvised art, impassioned and somewhat unpredictable. It's full of

IF YOU THREATEN TO KILL PEOPLE OFTEN ENOUGH, IT WILL BE SEEN AS PART OF YOUR VIBRANT CULTURAL TRADITION—AND BY DEFINITION, WE'RE ALL COOL WITH THAT

facts, starting with the fall of Constantinople in 1453, when Mehmet II celebrated with barbecuing and seducing, and some lucky lads found themselves on the receiving end of both. This section is a lively read in an age when most westerners, consciously or otherwise, adopt the blithe insouciance of Jimmy Kennedy's marvellous couplet in his 1938 pop hit *Hasidim* (*Not Cossacs no wops*):

Why did Constantinople get the wops?
Why did Constantinople get the wops?

1. *Journal of Management Studies*, 1996, 33, 1, 1-14.

FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT...BASEBALL STATISTICS

The contribution to baseball between the Numbers: Why Everything Is a Joke About the Game Is Wrong (Basic Books) love to bash fan's conventional wisdom. On ticket pricing, they say: In 1981, Tom's old Major League Owner like Rogers Centre) taught owners that fans would accept higher prices in exchange for new digs. The increased revenue fueled bidding wars for players.

That's nobody's business but the Turks
Signora Fallaci draws rooms on to the line
her examples of contemporary blues - for

For example, Agostinho Khosumira's "Blue Book" and its helpful advice on romantic partners: "If a man marries a woman who is reached the age of nine and if during the defilement he accidentally breaks the hymen, he cannot enjoy her any longer." I'll say it now: I always raise my eyebrow. Also: "A man who has had sexual relations with an animal, such as a sheep, may not eat its meat." Ho-

19TH-CENTURY INFORMED ALLEGED

Kerky is that it, it has nothing on Puller's new struts of cultural diversity—the security specialists please! European leaders prone of talking themselves down and talking others up. Beginning with the German foreign minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the 1985 Hamburg Symposium for the Euro Arab Dialogue, Ignatiev Puller rounds up a quarter-century's worth of westerners who've asserted that everything you know was invented by Islam: paper, medicine, sugar, antibodies, on and on and on and on.

"Always clever, the Muslim. Always at the top. Always ingenious. In philosophy, in mathematics, in geometry, in literature, in architecture, in medicine, in music, in law, in hydraulics, in cooking. And always rapid, as westerners. Always inadequate, always inferior. Therefore obliged to thank someone of Allah who protected us. Who might read as: Who acted as a schoolteacher guiding his slow pupils."

That, it turns to me, is the most valuable contribution of Osama bin Laden's work. I enjoy the die-hard post sexual-partner stuff as much as the next infidel, but the challenge presented by Islam is not due the cities of the Western world will be filling up with cheap shoppers. If I had to choose, I'd rather Muhammad Awn was downriver in Egypt hating on the Nilebank than flying through the windows of Manhattan skyscrapers. But he's not. And one reason why we're not

Muslims became confident that European life had changed, in part by a choice between generalized "Islam" and "the West," have inadvertently promoted a globalized pan-Islamism that's become a self-fulfilling prophecy. After all, Germany has Turks, France has Algerians, Britain has Pakistanis, the Netherlands has Indonesians. Even though they're all Muslims, the differences between

there have been very significant Sunni vs. Shia, Arab Indians vs. the more moderate form prevailing in Southeast Asia.

Once upon a time, we used to understand that, I've noticed in the last few years that, you pull any old minor 19th century novel out of the shelf, the on-passion observations about Islam seem most unremarkable: even if the allegedly expert consensus that appeared in the year after 9/11. For example, in *One Crime Or Three Months at Fustat During the Insurrection of 1817*, William Taylor wrote

ANY MEMOIRISTS SEEM MORE
ABOUT ISLAM THAN MOST OF THE
PERT COMMENTARY WE HEAR NOW

"With the *Siouxness* the *Wahabees* are on terms of tolerable agreement, though differing on certain points, but from the *Shoshos* they differ radically, and their hatred, like all religious hatred, is bitter and unrelenting. But the most striking characteristic of the *Wahabee* sect, and that which principally concerns this narrative, is the entire subversion which they yield to the *Poss*, or spiritual world."²

My Taylor, a naive civil servant in Bengal was a genuine "miscommunication." That's to say, although he regarded his own culture as important, he was engaged more by the ways of others to study the differences between them. By contrast, contemporary multiculturalists shudder at him for knowing so little about other cultures as long as they feel warm and fluffy towards them. After all, it's goodly policy not to go to one another's better than another, why bother learning about the difference? "Celebrate America" with a smattering of ignorance. Had William Taylor been around when the Islamification of the West got under way and proud soul of him, there'd have been someone opening down the street, hand waving to know what kind of mosque? Who's the imam? What branch of Islam? Old school imperialism could never get away with the fast-paced condemnation of PC oppressions.

Here's Taylor again: "The amos originally professed by the Wabbees have been described as a Mahomedan Pantheism, joined to a Bedouin Polytheism, in which the great chief is both the political and religious leader of the nation."

William Dwyer might have questioned whether that was such a great deal. The House of Saud used the term *haram* "free" to enrich themselves and export the hardship, and

introducing forms of Islam to the Balkans and Indonesia and Britain and North America.

This rampant Islam—promoted by a malign alliance between Europe and the Saudis—is a much better example of globalisation than McDonald's. In Bangladesh and Britain, it's put indigenous localised Idioms out of business and imposed a sinister first-world Marxist version cooked up by some guy at head office in Riyadh. One way to reverse its plans would be with a kind of antiracist approach: encourage to northern all the 'less threatening' races' 'pop Idioms' run out of town by the Saudis' Berber King version of globalisation. If a 21st-century William Taylor is welcome, perhaps Names could once more join the Riyadh.

**MACLEAN'S
BESTSELLERS**

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Phenyls

	THEATRICAL RELEASE	VIDEO RELEASE
1	SURFS UP by Anne Parmentier	2.00
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9	THE GREAT TRANSFORMATION by Robert Aronson	2/10
10	THE REMINDING BOOK OF THINGS	8/21/2



OPEN—FOR NOW: When the New York Times' Canadian bureau chief finishes his beer, his bid, he may not be replaced right away

Bye, Canada. Nice knowing ya.

They keep closing shop and heading home. But is a foreign media exodus so bad for us?

BY GLENN CAMPBELL—In the 1980s, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau was busy repatriating the Constitution, the Quebec question was at the top of the national agenda, and the country still maintained at least a modicum of international clout. All the while, journalists from foreign newspapers were here to write about it. The New York Times was no exception. In the 1980s, the paper had a bureau in Montreal. The Boston Globe had a bureau in Montreal. The Toronto Star had a Canadian bureau, as did the Chicago Tribune. But when Time magazine recently announced that it was closing its main bureau in Canada, it left the total number of foreign reporters from major U.S. newspapers in this country at just two (one from the New York Times, and one from the Washington Post). Slowly but surely, the foreign press has been going down in Canada.

Two weeks ago, Time Inc. told its two correspondents in Toronto that they would lose their jobs at the end of April. The company will sell out to a Canadian citizen of its magazine, and wants to focus less on Canadian news, says Joan Smith, the publishing director for Time Canada. Like the vast majority of other foreign news organizations, it will rely on freelance writers, wire services and staff working from the United States to cover Canada. But the news it will affect is broader: newsprint in the U.S. has lost more than 200 jobs. Last September, the New York Times Co. and Time were cutting in many to 100 jobs. The prevailing wisdom is that the traditional news business is doomed, so it's time young readers to the world of TV, online news services. Even though publicist and newspaper columnist Hugh Downs, one of the

falling media prices of major news organizations reveal a sense of crisis of confidence. As a result, many are under pressure to cut costs, and coverage of Canada is an easy target. Even the fate of the last two U.S. news bureaus here is uncertain, given the demands of covering Iraq and other more pressing international and domestic issues. The New York Times says it is not planning to close its Toronto bureau, but may lose its temporarily unannounced bureau chief Clifford Korman (he finishes a year here this fall). "We haven't named a replacement and we may not choose who we're going to," says deputy foreign editor John Brunner. "There are several factors that play into these things. One is personnel, the other is cost. And we are under some budget constraints, obviously." The Washington Post also says it's committed to leaving a Canadian bureau—at present. "Just looking over the year to date I see pieces from our correspondents, Dave Strack, on the front page, on the cover of the Style, Travel and Business sections. That's how I measure commitment," said David E. Hoffmann, the Post's assistant managing editor in charge of foreign news. But, he adds, "We're often discussing budgets, resources, and deployments worldwide. These internal discussions are constant." The Wall Street Journal is the only other U.S. newspaper in

Canada, but its reporters are periodically reprimanded by a Canadian Dow Jones editor.

The exodus of foreign media began in the 1990s as income tax laws made returning a reporter here for any length of time prohibitively expensive. After efforts to lobby Ottawa to change the laws failed, the New York Times (and other bureaus) for several years in the late 1990s, covering Canada out of Denver. But while foreign correspondents have become a rare breed since then, there is still an interest in Canadian news, say editors at the Times and the Post. Indeed, in recent months, U.S. papers have written about everything from the last haunt to the Harper government and Alberta's oil industry.

Curiously, the decline in commercial news organizations in Canada has been partly offset by the emergence here of a more state-sponsored news agency, like the Chinese Xinhua News Service or the Russian RIA Novosti. The latter is the only Canadian news agency, says Christopher Domene, director of California University's journalism program. The withdrawal of foreign reporters is also not necessarily a cause for concern, but a sign of the times and signs of a long-term media trend to use local reporters, he says. Stories about Canada in The Economist are written by Canadian journalists. The technological capacity of the Web allows getting news from a stable of local reporters more convenient for news agencies than placing a reporter on the ground, says Domene. "Most of what the world knows about Canada is now actually written by Canadians." ■



STOP THE PRESSES: COW BUTTERS INSULTED

"A story about the cattle market in Somerset [where] city started that Paul and David [Wendell of Pauline, who purchased a cow, 'sudden death' one all the higher priced ones. There is not the case. The writer intended only to contrast the cost of the cow the website purchased with the cost of other cattle at the auction. No comment on the Woburn's financial status was intended." —The Boston Globe, quoted by www.boston.com

REUTERS/GETTY IMAGES



THE COVER OF MADDOX'S BOOK says it all: "So easily that even his sentences don't have periods," promises a blurb on his website

The bestseller no one's ever read

An angry computer programmer's bizarre website has shot his not-yet-out book to No. 1

BY JAIMIE J. WEINMAN—Who is the bestselling author known only as "Maddox"? And why haven't you heard of him?

His book is *The Alphabet of Madness*, to be released in June. Kensington Publishing has done almost no promotion for it, but a recently hit No. 1 on the Amazon.com sales charts. People are ordering the book even though there is no word on what it's about, beyond publisher's description calling it "a book that guarantees your balls will be stomped." That, and the cover of a slender man wearing a garish, item to be enough for the loyal fans of Maddox.

"Maddox" is George Ouzounian, a computer programmer from Salt Lake City, Utah. He got to write the book because of the success of his website, the Best Page on the Internet (madness.uscnet.com). Though he insists on *The Alphabet of Madness* remains all true material, "Why would I charge money for a book people have already seen for free?" is still the same old story. Since 1997, Maddox has been writing long angry essays on things he hates: CNN, David, Internet-related words like "blogger" ("I find these words were people," he writes, "I'd rather embrace their genocide"), Justin Bieber and his native Utah. He creates elaborate graphics and doctored images, like a chart showing the difference between the tallest building in Salt Lake City and the tallest buildings in "real cities." "I've grown higher than the tallest building in Utah."

Maddox got offers from several publishers who wanted him to write a book full of first-person narrative, he signed with the underfunded Kensington because, "I have respect for a guy who was insane enough to give me a shot way back in the day, back when I was

just a guy writing articles with a crappy keyboard from a dampy apartment. Today I'm writing articles with a brand new keyboard." With an PR money from the publisher, Maddox used his own promotional method: he sent a note to all the people whose email addresses he had collected, mostly just "friends and fans" who had e-mailed him. He also posted the names on the site itself. Within 24 hours, *The Alphabet of Madness* was No. 1 on Amazon, and that stayed around that level over time. Maddox posts regular updates tracking the ranking of the book, when it fell below Julia Child's *My Life in France*, he lamented: "I guess Julia Child's escapades in France are masterful."

Loyal readers may hope that *The Alphabet of Madness* will provide a better understanding of Maddox's world view. While he has written a detailed analysis proving that a bomb of T-100 would make a better grenade than George W. Bush, he is not exactly a political liberal. In one essay, he calls for the formation of a "Repression Party" and defines his position on controversial issues: "I'm against abortion, but for killing babies. That way everyone loses, and I win."

Maddox is a master at a certain kind of wit—the combination of mock anger and fake pomposity—that has flourished on the Web. The deliberately bizarre, firmly with-

out most that stresses attention for dealing with subjects that are too weird or obscure for "conventional" publishers. These online writers like to give an above-the-shoulder look to mainstream subjects, Maddox devoted an essay to explaining the best methods of suicide, including "Eat a tub of lard" and "Blind-bait the sidewalk." Other times, they deal with obscure pop culture: Canadian Ken Kesey, of whom one, writes that of thousands of words analyzing bad movies like *The Godfather's The Lonely Lady*, while "Scumbag" of scumbagism merits about the stupidity of Nam and the show *Superman*. Scumbag is eventually hired to write for print magazines and even host a show on MTV.

Ouzounian may be seen in that for his lack of recognition, and he makes no secret of the fact that he wants a ticket out of Salt Lake City and into the big time. Living in Utah, he says, makes him feel "like I'm in a bad episode of *Star Trek* where they get stuck in some loop, a... every episode of *Star Trek*."

And as what other authors accomplish with book deals, interviews and even PR firms, Ouzounian has accomplished with a few web hits and his own personal email list. *The Alphabet of Madness* may take Ouzounian from Internet straggler to full-fledged fame, but one thing will always be certain: as Ouzounian says in his site's FAQ, "What's important is that I can always right about everything." Not to mention angry. ■



ON THE WEB: THE DEPARTING AIR FORCE ONE

The Net continues to cause red faces for U.S. military officials. Although they hastily withdrew information on the exterior of Air Force One that got published inadvertently on a military website, they admitted last week that the info had probably been relayed on and was a security matter. Given more getting a great amount of news and one of the biggest on Air Force One and published on online video proving it



HOLD YOUR BREATH: Melanie Tallington creates custom-designed Victorian and Edwardian corsets with authenticity, art and beauty

A waist is a terrible thing to waste

Thanks to a renaissance in burlesque, a B.C. corsetiere is reviving the lost art of lacing up

BY LIANNE GEORGE — Melanie Tallington got her first glimpse of Dolly Parton's outlandish proportions as a child watching *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. That film, she says, sparked her interest in conserving the art of corseting garments that instantly transform an ordinary woman into a provocative femme fatale. Now, at 31, Tallington is building a reputation as one of the world's most skilled creators of Victorian and Edwardian style corsets made with authentic steel boning. Her most recent Edwardian Amber in Vancouver has attracted folklorists and performers in cladding the burlesque star Dixie Van Tassie, a.k.a. Miss Marilyn Manson. But Tallington is also seeking the interest of average women looking to tap into the pin-up girl aesthetic that's experiencing a popular resurgence.

As a corsetiere, she is carefully self-taught. "It's definitely a labor of love," says Tallington, who began her career designing wedding dresses. At the time, she says, ladies-to-be were completely at a loss of understanding as to how to lacy themselves up for their wedding day. So she decided to experiment with making them herself. In 1996, after a lengthy search, she tracked down her first antique corset at a vintage store, for \$65. "It was made of real wood from the 1860s," she says. "It was completely made of wood and about 100 fragile to try on, but it had a whalebone and it was everything I could want in a study piece." (She has since accumulated more than 180 antique corsets, some which have her designs, making her the largest private collection in Canada.) Soon, she was getting so many requests—particularly from the burgeoning Vancouver burlesque scene—that she developed her brand and now wears corsets together to focus exclusively on corsetry.

In the history of fashion, few items have been more controversial. Corsets were worn in their early days as symbols of status and beauty. In the 18th century, they were strapped onto young aristocratic women to literally remodel their torsos into a dish-shaped hourglass shape. With their steel boning and psychically right lacing, they sometimes crunched a woman's waist to the point of causing ribs and damaging internal organs. By the time women collectively abandoned them for more forgiving undergarments in the early 20th century, the notion of wearing them for recreation was probably far-fetched.

But 10 years ago, around the time Tallington opened her business, burlesque shows—in which dancers in colourful costumes perform elaborate striptease dances—began to experience a renaissance in cities across North America. The Puget Sound, a burlesque group based in Los Angeles, arranged guest performances such as Gwen Stefani and Christina Aguilera, and in 2005 recorded a best-selling pay album. This year, Dixie Van Tassie published her book *Black Burlesque and the Art of the Time to Seducer Melody*. And most recently, actress Gretchen Mol has attracted attention for her role as a sexy '50s pin-up in *The Notorious B.I.B.*

Tallington attributes the renewed interest to a combination of consumer fatigue

and a desire among women to rediscover femininity "after decades of trying to establish themselves in a male-dominated workplace." Either way, she says, it's about a boom in sales. "Corsets got a bad rap in the past because women were forced to wear them," she says. "But today, a people who decide to wear them are healthy, active people."

Her catalog made silk and leather garments, which start at \$400, one single and one-half woman in an alarming number of ways. "You could create cleavage and do a sharp, ruffled waist," she says. "Or you could do a longer, longer waist." She recommends that women order their corset four inches smaller than their natural waist size. (There are extreme examples—some of her most famous clients is Catherine Zeta, a 68-year-old American who holds the record for the world's smallest waist at 15 inches—even on a few occasions when she removes her corset.)

In some cases, men are buying them for their wives and girlfriends. "They are very specific about what they want," says Tallington. "So, the separation of the breasts, the shape of the waist, the shoulders and number of panels. They have no hiding all types of things. In fact, they're really into corset engineering."

But mostly women lead the charge, she says. Many find corsets erotic in a way that pornography isn't. "All that stuff is just your face," she says. "That's it. The small you can't see the provocative act of the torso—that's the kind of thing that's being rediscovered."



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT... SONG DYNASTY VASE

The white porcelain vase sold for US\$20 million, nearly three times the opening bid of US\$75 million, at an auction in Beijing in recent years, newly affluent Chinese have rediscovered their own art heritage and have made increasingly important links to their past. In 2005, the vase was purchased by a Chinese collector for US\$150,000, or 100 times the pre-sale estimate.

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HICKMILL, the author name, comes from the Latin word meaning "honored" and the French word meaning "not is know"

How to stop being so darn nice

People who are afraid to say what they really think should start practising—on strangers

BY JELMA MOCHINWELL • Therapist Evelyn Sommer noticed her clients would often nod but, "I'm such a nice person. I have no map doing this." She wondered what it was about being nice that bothered patients. "Somehow it didn't feel good to them," she says.

For 15 years, Sommers has been treating people who fear that if they say any what they really think, they will lose a friend or be ridiculed. "Nice people may have thoughts very different from the ones we think they have," writes Sommers, who is also the author of *The Zyness of Niceness: Unmasking the Need for Approval*. "Nice people exist in separate worlds, rarely or never revealing the madness. They may have lots of superficial conversation but little real connection."

She cites the example of someone agreeing to do a favour for a friend who is actually the insurer a huge inconvenience. "There's an internal conflict," explains Sotomayor from her office in downtown Toronto. "But they don't have any intention at that moment of stopping the niceness." Niceness, she notes in her book, derives from the Latin *nicere*, meaning "agreeing," and the French *naître*, meaning "not to know." "When we fail to express our thoughts we are colluding with ignorance," she writes. "Niceness is the equivalent of self-denial: denial of the need to speak, to force agreement and share their wish with other people, denial of their true human attraction."

By contrast, happiness comes from a sense of being true to oneself, says Sommers. She encourages clients to practice being direct in low-risk situations with strangers as opposed to with friends, where there is a stake if the truth is not well received. A public place is a good place to start, she says. If a stranger

ago on your tie, for instance," "I rather than going in or saying 'yes' or 'no' to anything." Say what's on your mind at the moment. "In high risk situations with friends and lovers, the re-connection clients to consider the difference between being nice and being kind. 'I'll just smile' is rewarded under the umbrella of niceness but really it's a different thing." Being kind can mean saying something like, "I love you, but I don't like you very much." Being nice is just a polite way of saying "I don't like you very much." It's a subtle way to do it. She says she doesn't want to be a nice client who sought counseling because her marriage was in trouble. The main goal Samuels had to him on his wedding day, his entire voice had told him he was making a mistake, but he knew counseling would mean disappointing parents, siblings and friends. He went ahead and got married. "Being an honorable— and above all— man, he continued to live in the marriage, though often distressed by the thoughts of his wife's infidelity," says Samuels. "I divorced his wife and he said they stayed near each other, but they both paid a 30-year price for his mistake."

"Once you begin to do it, it gets easier," insists Sommer, referring to the fear that prevents some people from broaching difficult topics. So how exactly does one start such a conversation? Tell the person, "these are the feelings I have and I want to be able to tell you about them."

Which was not the case with Nick. Neither of Koven's claims. Nick confessed to some sins that his partner Kevin admitted he hadn't heeded. Nick found him less attractive, but rather than tell Kevin that, his response was to compliment him on the new line. Someone asked Nick why he hadn't been honest. Nick replied that he didn't think his honesty would accomplish anything other than hurt Kevin's feelings. Someone did ask: "There are ways of expressing one's honest opinion with compassion," that woman suggested that Nick tell Kevin that he still found him attractive but that, "you know, the brand looked bad and we had a better match for his personality." Nick was doubtful but agreed, and a week later reports that Kevin agreed. Kevin had shaved the beard because he thought Nick preferred "clean lines." "I'm glad to express with words what I've been thinking," Nick said. "I thought that was either an important tool to develop for the benefit of art or a weakness," says someone. When you master that, she says, the message to others will be that you are honest and truthful and fair and kind.

Someone on the scene says there is a

interactive classes in which students work in pairs, practicing how not to be nice. "Think about the freedom and excitement of saying what you feel. Think about telling your friends that you like—over love—them rather than letting them assume it. This honesty is as noble as piety is silent." ■



JOSEF HEDBERG BERT HANSSON

He's graduated from mere TV performer to real star. Recently, the star of the 1980s series *Knight Rider* (which will become a feature film later this year) compared himself to Mother Teresa and her famed analogic powers: "I just go into any hospital in the country and make a kid smile and forget the pain for a few seconds. How fantastic is that? I walk in, all the kids go, 'Michael Knight!' and start coming out of the walls!" (SNL)

Daddy
loves you
like crazy



SEPT FISCAL

*An open letter to Tom
Crawford's new baby*

First of all, don't be scared. Maewey's just gone out for a cup of mine. She'll be back in 30 mins.

I hope you don't mind me writing, kid. I realize you've got a lot on your plate right now—the crying, the constant nagging from a lot of adults, all that shuffling in the middle of the night. In other words, the kind of hellhouse that's completely expected by new parents and Cole (and I, for that matter). Plus, it's like only now is the danger of demons coming through the door. Lookin' back from Uncle Jack, a copy from Mr. Easwood, the Russell Crowe film *Collection* on DVD from Russell Crowe.

Sure, you're a hellup in our new life. Society babies grow up quickly in Hollywood. Kids, it won't be long before Angelina Jolie's kids will be knocking on the door and asking if you want to come out to meet Africa. You can call the numbers when you

Son, you are going to live your life in the public eye. This is unfair but it's the price we

YES, TECHNIQUE IS IMPORTANT, BUT YOU CAN'T BE TOO THOUGH. YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHEN TO STOP. WHEN TO ACT. WHEN TO STOP ACTING.

A few words of warning to begin with:
 • It's easy for rich kids to grow up smug
 and rude. Work hard to be polite. When
 addressing the gardener, for instance, don't
 call him James. Train yourself to refer to him
 as Mr. Van Der Bork.

3. Check out the security footage from the (viral) game. See those ugly-as-sin with wrinkled shirts and rumpled trousers? They're called paparazzi. It's an Italian word that roughly translated, means "those destined to be crash-headed by Sean Penn." These guys can tell a camera's searching for you!

ties of thousands of dollars. That's why the instructors at your Celebrity Mimmy are. My class focus so carefully on developing that most crucial motor function—the extension of the middle finger. Because it. If you need remedial help, there's a Learning Annex course on it nearby, by Clair.

3. Then there are the tattlers. They will print horrible things about your family—like that your Dad is a grade-A racist hopelessly lost in a toxic haze of nagging self-righteousness. They may also print some things that aren't true.

Speaking of your father, what can I say about him?

Well, he's totally not gay. That much he made clear. Just go ahead and ask him how gay-gay he is. (On second thought, don't—he's very litigious and there are better ways to spend your allowance.)

What else? Well, Daddy is a very successful actor who has made a ton of very successful movies and *Eyes Wide Shut*. And...uhhh. Sure, I'm not sure how to put this exactly. It's awkward. It's just that your father is, well...you know how some people have a great sense? Daddy's not one of them.

It's hard to pin down exactly when Daddy's semi-objective went bye-bye. We know this much: your Dad has for a long time been something called a Scientologist. How is Diantha's your father in this religious movement? Put it this way: the Church of Scientology used to be widely regarded with deep respect—but now, thanks almost entirely to the efforts of your Daddy, it's widely mocked.

Frankly, I don't know that much about Sol

But my point is this: There are things you can do to help rehabilitate your Diddy!

public image. For instance, you can wear a T-shirt that has an arrow pointing to his under the words "I'm With Her Crazy." Also, whenever he climbs up on the farmstand press the buttons on the remote to tug his collar. It's educational for him and fun for you. Everybody wins.

Above all else, remember that your Dad loves you. And it's because of your Dad that your surname isn't *Federline*. So you've got that name for you, which is nice. ☺

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